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DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

26 NOVEMBER 1986

Israel

Statement on Iran Deal — Responding to U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese's disclosures about Israeli involvement in the sale of U.S. weapons to Iran, an official statement broadcast by Jerusalem radio acknowledged that Israel "helped in transferring defensive weapons and spare parts from the United States to Iran at the request of the United States," but added that Iran's payment was made through a Swiss bank "without passing through Israel." The statement expressed surprise that money from the deal was diverted to the Nicaraguan "contra" movement, adding that Israel has nothing to do with this issue, knows nothing about it, and "would not agree to serve as a funnel of this sort." The Israeli statement was issued after a lengthy meeting between Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres, and Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, the radio said, noting that Meese's disclosures apparently "caught Jerusalem by surprise." Shamir had earlier told Jerusalem television that "it is not our policy to export weapons to Iran in particular," but "sometimes there can be exceptions" to this rule. He stressed that there are "no secret ties" with Iran.

Relations With Egypt — During an official visit to Egypt, Energy Minister Moshe Shahal informed President Husni Mubarak that Israel's commitment to join an international peace conference is still valid, IDF radio reported. Shahal told reporters that he had been empowered by Foreign Minister Peres to transmit a message in this vein to Mubarak. A related *Hadashot* report stated that the message was not coordinated with Prime Minister Shamir, who may seek clarifications on its content.

East Jerusalem — A call by the mufti of Jerusalem for the posting of a UN force in East Jerusalem to protect Arab residents was dismissed by Shamir, who said that recent incidents in the city were perpetrated by fringe groups, Jerusalem radio reported. Arab residents have also demanded the removal of the Shuvu Banim Yeshiva from the Muslim quarter, the radio noted.

Attack on UAE Facility; Iran-Iraq War

A UAE offshore oil platform at Abu al-Bukhush suffered "extensive damage" in an air strike 25 November, according to a UAE statement read over Dubayy radio. The statement noted that 5 people were killed and 24 wounded in the "vicious aggression" by "foreign aircraft." An IRNA report blamed the strike on Iraq. At an emergency session the following day, the UAE Council of Ministers warned that the attack contributes to the "escalating dangers" against the region and endangers the interests and security of peace-loving states, Dubayy radio reported. The UAE will continue efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war, the cabinet said, but it reserves the right to take necessary measures to protect itself.

Meanwhile, a communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio announced that Iraqi warplanes hit Iranian oil facilities on Larak Island in the Strait of Hormuz 25 November. INA later noted a Lloyds report that three oil tankers were hit near the island. A military spokesman cited by the radio also announced an air strike on a "large maritime target" off the Iranian coast, and Nicosia radio subsequently disclosed that a Cypriot tanker was hit in the central Gulf while sailing in Iranian waters. In a cable to President Saddam Husayn broadcast by Baghdad radio, the Iraqi Air Force commander declared that the Larak raid was part of a "new plan" to make "spectacular" air strikes on Iran's "military and economic mainstays." Another Iraqi communique carried on Voice of the Masses radio acknowledged the loss of a plane in attacks on military targets in Dezful and Andimeshk, while IRNA reported that 26 November was declared a day of mourning for 30 civilians killed in Iraq's raids on the two cities.

An Iraqi military statement broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio subsequently announced that 48 civilians were killed and 52 wounded when an Iranian missile hit a heavily populated area in Baghdad. Tehran radio announced that in further retaliation for Iraq's "criminal acts," a missile was fired on an "information and security center" in Baghdad. Military statements cited by IRNA said that Iranian warplanes bombarded the military airport at Irbil 26 November and that antiaircraft fire in Bakhtaran downed a second Iraqi jet the previous day.

Lebanon

The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported fierce clashes between Amal and Palestinian gunmen in the Maghdushah area 26 November, noting that fighting between the two sides also continued along combat lines in the Burj al-Barajinah and Shatila areas of Beirut. The radio cited reports that 250 fighters from both sides were killed or wounded in the battle for Maghdushah the previous day. The radio said the Palestinians regained complete control of the town in the fighting 26 November, and Beirut radio broadcast an Amal Movement statement which acknowledged that the Palestinians had launched a major offensive in an attempt to take positions recaptured by Amal. Beirut radio claimed earlier that Amal completely recaptured the town 25 November and repulsed five Palestinian counterattacks. Hizballah gunmen participated alongside Amal in the recapture of Maghdushah, according to a Hizballah statement carried by the radio. In contrast, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio said the Palestinians remained in control of Maghdushah 25 November.

Meanwhile, Radio Monte Carlo disclosed that attempts to secure a Palestinian-Lebanese agreement in Damascus ended in failure, noting that a "stormy meeting" between Palestine National Salvation Front (PNSF) and Lebanese nationalist leaders concluded without results. A PFLP official cited by the radio accused Amal of obstructing a solution by insisting that it take immediate control of positions evacuated by the Palestinians, whereas the latter wanted such positions to be taken over by Mustafa Sa'd's Nasirite Popular Organization, a Sunni militia based in Sidon. Mustafa Sa'd criticized Amal in a statement reported by the radio, asserting that Amal's refusal to allow his men to take control of these positions "does not help solve the problem." In remarks cited by Beirut radio, Amal leader Nabih Birri indicated that Amal will only be willing to lift the siege on Al-Rashidiyah camp after the Palestinians have withdrawn to their camps in the Sidon area, allowing Amal to reoccupy the positions it held before the attack on Maghdushah.

In other contacts in Damascus, Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam discussed the Lebanon situation during talks with Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', IRNA noted. Libyan Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud met with both PNSF and Lebanese leftist leaders in an attempt to stop the bloodshed in Lebanon, Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio stated. In Libya, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi received a message from PFLP leader George Habash asking the Libyan leader to intervene immediately to stop the "unjust war" by the "Shi'ite despair gangs" against the Palestinian camps, according to the radio.

Egypt

A "high-ranking" Soviet economic delegation arrived in Cairo for a third round of talks on improving bilateral cooperation, MENA reported.

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Arab Envoys Condemn U.S. Arms Sales to Iran

LD251740 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] The council of Arab countries' ambassadors accredited to Spain met at an extraordinary session in Madrid to analyze the latest developments in the Iran-Iraq war, especially the sale of arms by the United States to Iran. According to the Arab League Information Office, the ambassadors condemned the arms sale and expressed their wish that arms-trafficking countries should not sell their products to the Iranian regime or facilitate the passage of arms through their territory if Iran is their destination.

PNSF-Lebanese Meeting Ends 'Without Results'

JN251526 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1400 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Excerpts] The stormy meeting held at Khalid al-Fahum's office between the Palestine National Salvation Front [PNSF] leadership and the leaders of the Lebanese national parties concluded without results.

A Palestinian official who attended the meeting told us that Nabih Birri had vetoed the participation of the Nasirite Popular Organization's forces in any solution. He also rejected a proposal that the positions occupied by Palestinians in the Maghdushah area since dawn yesterday be handed over to the parties' forces and insisted these positions be handed over to the Amal forces. This was rejected by the Palestinian leaders.

In the meantime, the PFLP received cables from the area stating that fierce battles are raging and that the Palestinian fighters had repulsed the counterattacks mounted by the Amal forces since 0400. No change in the situation was reported, and the number of the two sides' martyrs is very large. The situation in the Sidon area is good except for some bombs that inflicted some casualties on civilians. All night long, the Al-Rashidiyah camp came under mortar, RPG-7 rocket, and heavy machine gun fire. There were also attempts to advance and violent clashes.

Regarding the results of the meeting, George Hawi said: The basic principles of a comprehensive solution have been emphasized in implementation of the guidelines of yesterday's meeting with Khaddam in which Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt participated. We are now in the process of drawing the applicable details of this solution so it will be guaranteed. He added: We either reach an applicable agreement today or matters get out of hand, because the necessary details are now important to secure a successful solution on the basis of the unacceptability of Palestinian expansion outside the camps and synchronization of the clauses of a solution in the short- and long-term stages.[passage omitted]

The parties' leaders are now meeting with Nabih Birri. They will then meet with Khaddam before they meet again with the PNSF leadership.

Birri Seeks 2-Stage Solution

NC260746 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Excerpts][Passage omitted] REUTER has cited Minister Nabih Birri as saying the following in Damascus yesterday: Sidon is no longer inhabited by its owners; it is besieged by pro-'Arafat gangs. Amal strugglers are currently working to secure its freedom, because a siege of Sidon means a siege of the entire south.

Minister Birri called for the return of all Palestinian forces to the camps. He added: Lebanese decisionmaking must prevail in Lebanon, for we all are at the service of Palestine and of national resistance. Let 'Arafat and everyone else realize the Amal Movement never has and never will lose. Those who expelled Israel from Lebanon can also expel those who have deviated from the course of resistance against Israel.

Minister Birri continued: The battle has taken on a new course now that the Amal Movement has regained its positions. However, the situation is extremely serious and portends grave consequences.

He emphasized that Israel will be the ultimate beneficiary of these events and of a capitulatory course, whether Lebanese or Palestinian. Minister Birri also said that certain Palestinian organizations are seeking to settle in Lebanon rather than continue their pursuit of liberation.

Minister Birri went on: We hope Syria's honorable role and the meetings being held in Damascus will produce a resolution of the situation and, consequently, prompt the Palestinians to return to the camps, which are under our movement's protection.

Birri said 'Arafat and other capitulationists have tried to cancel the role being played by Amal's guns, which are a part of the Lebanese resistance against the Israeli enemy. But, he added, the movement will confront this new plot with great force.

Responding to 'Arafat's accusation that the Amal Movement is trying to establish a Shi'ite pocket in the south, Minister Birri said: Had Amal wished to establish a pocket, or more, in the south, it would simply have done so; this would not have been a problem. We in Amal teach our cadres that the unity of Lebanon is the movement's ultimate goal. It follows that Amal must totally reject and resist the system of cantons.

Discussing the prospects for arriving at a solution to the Palestinians' status in Lebanon, the Amal Movement leader said: This must be done in two stages: the first preparatory, and the second final. The first stage must provide for an immediate cessation of the bloodshed and for the Palestinians' withdrawal to the camps in the area of Sidon, with no replacement of their presence by any other forces, overt or covert, connected with Yasir 'Arafat. Following this stage and the Amal Movement's return to the positions it held before the eruption of fighting in Maghdushah, the second stage will begin with the implementation of the Damascus agreements on the Al-Rashidiyah camp and the others. Once this stage is reached, we will have no objection to a meeting between a Palestinian delegation, represented by the Palestinian National Salvation Front, and a Lebanese delegation represented by the nationalist parties. The conferees should discuss the future of Lebanese-Palestinian relations, the basis of the discussion being that decisionmaking in Lebanon must be Lebanese and that we are all in the service of Palestine.

PFLP, Nasirite Leaders Comment

JN251929 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1740 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] To shed light on the various stands, we will begin with PFLP Assistant Secretary General Abu 'Ali Mustafa, who gave his opinion to our Damascus correspondent, Louis Faris.

[Begin Abu 'Ali Mustafa recording] With respect to the political contacts under way, we have been conducting talks with our brothers, the representatives of the Lebanese nationalist movement, since yesterday. These talks seek to reach a political solution to mobilize the Palestinian-Syrian-Lebanese nationalist efforts for the confrontation of the main danger. A plan containing specific proposals has been submitted. This plan is divided into two complementary parts on the withdrawal of the Palestinian fighters to their positions before the recent clashes. The plan calls for an immediate and comprehensive cease-fire in all areas and the full implementation of the provisions of the 5 October agreement on the Al-Rashidiyah camp, such as the lifting of the siege; bringing in food supplies; and treating the wounded; as well as dealing with the state of affairs in the Burj al-Barajinah camp and the Palestinian camps in Beirut.

On our part, we have agreed to these proposals, given they are an integrated whole. It was also agreed with the representatives of the nationalist movement that all this will be implemented in the next 3 days, after which an expanded Palestinian-Lebanese-Syrian meeting will be held to discuss how to definitely regulate Palestinian-Lebanese nationalist relations. The Lebanese nationalist movement's representatives emerged from the meeting very satisfied at having reached this result, which will no doubt be implemented if Amal shows good intentions. However, in another meeting with the representatives of the Lebanese nationalist movement at noon today, we were surprised by the Amal Movement's insistence on taking immediate control of Palestinian positions if the Palestinians evacuate them.

We have submitted a practical proposal that says the nationalist forces will control these positions until the first stage is implemented. We want this to take place to guarantee that the agreement is really implemented and to eliminate any cause for friction. However, the Amal Movement obstructed this solution with its intransigence, and this is a sign it is not serious about seeking a solution. Had it been seeking a solution, the Amal Movement would itself have taken the initiative to at least solve humanitarian problems in the Al-Rashidiyah camp. We are not surprised at this intransigent stand by the Amal Movement. In light of our experience with the Amal Movement over the past 18 months, it has always tried to obstruct all solutions.

For our part, we are not an occupation force, nor are we a force that seeks to control this and that location. We do not want to occupy Lebanese positions. We are in the defensive position. What we aspire to is a solution by which the people will be reassured and which will lead to a political relaxation through a radical solution serving the program of joint struggle against the Zionist enemy by the Palestinian-Lebanese nationalist forces. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Let us now listen to the latest developments in the Syrian capital by our correspondent Louis Faris:

[Begin Louis Faris recording] [passage omitted] We received the following statement from Mustafa Sa'd: I Would like to make it clear that I did not participate in the meetings held after the Maghdshah battles, and I am surprised that as secretary general of the Nasirite grouping I have been excluded from these deliberations and consultations. I would like to draw attention to the fact that the Amal Movement refuses to allow the Popular Liberation Army to take control of the positions on which agreement was previously reached and which are now a topic of the controversy following the Palestinians' withdrawal from them. This does not help solve the problem because the role of our grouping is essential and we cannot give it up.

We reiterate the need to implement the agreements reached in Damascus, in my house and in the house of brother Nabih Birri, agreements the Amal Movement agreed to. These agreements stipulate that we will assume the mission of supervising the Sayyidat Maghdushah hill and the other points where fighting is now taking place. We are against the Palestinians' spreading their control outside the camps. We are against a return to the state of affairs that existed before 1982 and against the persecution of the Palestinian people. [passage omitted] [end recording]

KUNA: OAPEC Undersecretaries To Meet 30 Nov

LD251443 Kuwait KUNA in English 1253 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 25 (KUNA) — The Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) Tuesday announced that the Executive Bureau of the ten member countries' oil ministers undersecretaries will meet here next Sunday to prepare for the upcoming ministerial conference agenda.

A press release, issued by the organization said the programme of the organization's works in the 1987-91 period will be raised to the ministerial conference which is scheduled for December 3, 1986.

The question of the member countries' subscriptions arrears to the organization budget will also be discussed and raised to the conference, said the release.

It added preparing for the fourth Arab energy conference which is scheduled in Baghdad in 1988 and a number of the issues including the organization's draft budget. [sentence as received]

OAPEC, which was established in 1968 comprises the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Iraq, Syria, Libya, Algeria, Tunisia, Bahrain, and Kuwait where the organization is based.

BAHRAIN

Saudi King Fahd Arrives on Official Visit

LD252103 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1302 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Manama, 25 Nov (SPA) — King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud arrived here at 1515 today on a visit to fraternal Bahrain, during which he will meet with his brother Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman al-Khalifah. Tomorrow, the two leaders will open the new Saudi Arabia-Bahrain bridge. Amir 'Isa ibn Salman al-Khalifah welcomed King Fahd on arrival. [passage omitted]

KUWAIT

Government Condemns Attack on UAE Oil Field

LD252123 Kuwait KUNA in English 1945 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 25 (KUNA) — Kuwait condemned today's air strike on an Abu Dhabi offshore oil field and spelled out its solidarity with the United Arab Emirates and other Gulf Cooperation Council partners in the face of such incidents.

The Kuwaiti reaction to the attack on Abu Dhabi's Abu al-Bukush oil field was conveyed in a telephone call initiated by His Highness Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'id al-Abdallah to Abu Dhabi's crown prince and UAE Armed Forces Deputy Supreme Commander Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid al-Nahayyan.

Foreign Minister Praises Bids for Reconciliation

LD251518 Kuwait KUNA in English 1420 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 25 (KUNA) — Kuwait has welcomed the current efforts exerted by Egypt which seeks a Jordanian-Palestinian rapprochment and other efforts aimed at reinforcing Arab solidarity and repudiating divisions.

In a statement to reporters on the subject, Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said that the normalization of relations between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) is a pressing issue and a national demand.

Expressing his hope for an encounter between the Jordanian monarch and the PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, Shaykh Sabah praised the current Egyptian bids.

The Kuwaiti chief diplomat described Jordan as the most suitable Arab country for the presence of the Palestinians because it (Jordan) neighbours Palestine, given the fact of the great resemblance between them.

Yesterday, 'Arafat welcomed, in a press conference held in Riyadh, a meeting with King Husayn of Jordan.

Meanwhile, the Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid announced that contacts between his country and the PLO are underway concerning a Jordanian-Palestinian rapprochment.

PDRY

Arrested Group Linked to 'Ali Nasir Muhammad

EA252134 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] A responsible source in the Ministry of State Security made a news statement today to ANA in which he said that, thanks to the vigilance of the security systems, a group of individuals belonging to the counterrevolution that had infiltrated from outside, carrying arms and explosives of a foreign make, had been arrested. The group intended to use the materiel to sabotage important installations and utilities in Abyan Governorate.

The source pointed out that an investigation revealed this group was directly linked to the conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his clique.

The accused in this case will be tried shortly so justice can pass a just people's sentence on them as a lesson to whoever allows their sick selves to be enticed into violating the security and stability of the people, the gains of the revolution, and the democratic nationalist regime in our country.

Supreme Court Presents Charges Against 142

EA242133 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 23 Nov 86

[Text] The Supreme Court of the Republic convened this morning under the presidency of Dr Mustafa 'Abd al-Khaliq. Members of the court, the public prosecution led by brother Salim Ba Junayd, as well as the defense counsel, also attended.

[Words indistinct] There are 78 persons [words indistinct] Muhammad Nasir Jabir; 'Abd al-Qadir [name indistinct] Ba Jammal; Muhammad 'Ali 'Abd al-Qawi; 'Ali [name indistinct] Hadi; Salim Mubarak Haydarah; Muhammad 'Ali Salih [name indistinct]; Abdullah (?Jabir) 'Ali; (Shayi) Qasim 'Ali; Mubarak Nasir Salim Said; Uthman Haydrah Muudah; Muhammad 'Abd al-Rahman Khan; Muhammad al-Haj Muhammad; Hasan 'Abdullah Ishaq; Salih Abu Bakr al-Hamati; Muhammad Ahmad Haydrah al-Shanbah; Said 'Abd al-Jabbar Aqil; 'Abdullah Khamis 'Ali [word indistinct]; Muhammad 'Ali 'Abdullah Ba Tayts; Salim Muhammad Ahmad al-Shurti; 'Abdullah Abduh Salih; Tawfiq Hamid Muqbil; 'Ali Ahmad 'Abdullah (Al-Darb); Nasir Salim al-Azzani; 'Abd al-Qadir Salih al-Yusufi; Nasir Ahmad Jabir; 'Abdullah Yahya Jabir; Uthman Nasir 'Ali Nasir; 'Abdullah Haydrah Ba Fayyad; Muhammad 'Ali Miftah; Ahmad Mansur Muhammad Mansur; Farid Muhammad Ahmad Barakat; Sadiq Ahmad (Wadi); 'Abdullah Salih Muhammad; Muhammad Husayn 'Ali al-Husayni; Muhammad Sayf Thabit; Salim Salih al-Abbad; Ahmad Awad Atif; Ahmad Haytham al-Hindi; Salih Ahmad 'Abd Rabbuh; Husayn Muhammad Husayn; Shlih Muhammad Ahmad al-Amriri; 'Ali Muqbil Husayn; Salih Ahmad Umar al-Bakhishi; Muhammad Surur 'Ali; 'Abdullah Ayyash Isa; Alawi Muhammad 'Abdullah (Hazm); Nasir Farhan Shaybah; Muhammad Salim (al-Asil); Nasir Muhammad 'Ali Shanab; 'Ali Salim 'Abdullah [name indistinct]; Salim Awad Azzan; Ahmad Muhammad al-Aqil; Salim 'Ali Ahmad [name indistinct]; Muhammad 'Ali Naji 'Abdullah; Alawi Muhammad 'Abdullah al-Billi; 'Abdullah 'Ali Salih Tarmum; Ahmad Umar Husayn al-Haddad; 'Ali Muhammad Salih [name indistinct]; Umar Salim (Jayzan); 'Ali 'Abd al-Nabi Husayn; Husayn Hasan Bahbul; Muhammad Jumay al-Khadir Ba Hamim; Qasim 'Ali Ahmad Qusayrah; Ahmad 'Ali Nasir (Al-Quhum); Mahdi Muhammad Hadi al-Fulin; Awad Salim Jirdaha; Salim Muhammad [name indistinct]; 'Abdullah al-Sayyid al-Ghuraybi; Jurallah Salim Husayn; Nasir Muhammad 'Ali Ubadi; Salim Muhammad 'Abd al-Nabi (Zaqwan); Nasir Shaykh Husayn; Muhammad 'Abdullah Nasir al-Masabi; Muhammad 'Abdullah Ba Sayyid; 'Abdullah Ahmad Abdullah al-Thurayya; Muhammad Ahmad Muhsin [name indistinct] al-Habrish; 'Abdullah Aydarus [name indistinct]; Qasim Muhammad al-Uraybi; 'Ali Ahmad Awad al-Haqqani; Fadl 'Abdullah [name indistinct]; Muhammad Mubarak Marzuq; 'Ali Yaslam 'Ali Umurah; Muhammad 'Abd al-Nabi Salih; Al-Qabili Abu Bakr Muqbil; Yislam Ahmad Faraj Mutawwa; Muhammad Salih Miskin; 'Ali Muudhah Masud.

The court directed that the fugitives outside the country be tried in absentia in accordance with the provisions of Articles 464 to 470 of the Criminal Code.

They are: 'Ali Nasir Muhammad; Abu Bakr 'Abd al-Razzaq; 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir; Anis Hasan Yahya; Ahmad Musaid Husayn; Muhammad 'Ali Ahmad; Abdullah 'Ali Ilaywah; Ahmad 'Abdullah al-Hasani; 'Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi; 'Abdullah Bukayr; Muhammad 'Abdullah al-Batani; Sulayman Nasir Muhammad; Muhammad Sulayman Nasir; Ahmad Awad al-Mahruq; Hasan 'Ali Salamah; Hasan Ahmad Ba Awm; 'Ali Nasir Lakhsha; 'Ali Awad al-Mashkhari; Salih Husayn al-Zawabi; Sulayman Qays; 'Abd Rabbuh Husayn Mansur; Salih Husayn Qasim; 'Abdullah Mansur 'Ali; Salim 'Ali Salih [name indistinct]; 'Ali Salih al-Qutaysh; Salim Mansur Haydrah; Muhammad Hamid Haydrah; Muhammad 'Abdullah ibn (Adl); Fadl Sail 'Abd al-Rahman; Nasir Umar Shaykh; Ahmad Masud al-Alwani; Hamid Muhammad Lamlas; Muhammad Nasir Ahmad; Salih Muhammad Lazlam; Ahmad Muhammad al-Jabwani; Najib Muhammad Ibrahim; Ahmad Nasir al-Hamati; 'Ali Ahmad [name indistinct]; Musaid Salih 'Abdullah; Salim Muhammad al-Jari; Ahmad 'Ali al-Qashbari; Al-Qadir 'Abdullah al-Aqil; Said Salim al-Arif; Sulayman Nasir Masud; and Awad Nasir al-Jahmah.

The prosecution of the Republic preferred five criminal charges against the accused as follows:

The first charge: Treason against the homeland, contrary to Article 102 of the Criminal Code No 3 of the year 67 [as heard]against all the accused.

The second charge: Acts of terrorism contrary to Article 104 of the same law against the following accused persons;

'Ali Nasir Muhammad; Ahmad Musaid Husayn; Muhammad 'Ali Ahmad; Abdullah Ilaywah; Ahmad 'Abdullah Muhammad Husayn; 'Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi; Awad Salih Ubayd; Ahmad Haydrah Said; Muhammad 'Abdullah al-Batani; Sulayman Nasir Masud; Ahmad Awad al-Muhruq; Hasan Ahmad ba Awm; 'Ali Nasir Lakhasha; Salih Husayn al-Zawari; Sulayman Ahmad Qays; Abd Rabbuh Husayn Mansur; 'Abdullah Mansur Hadi; Salim 'Ali Salih (?Qatn); 'Ali Salih al-Qutaysh; Salim Mansur Haydrah; Muhammad Hamid Haydrah; Hamid Lamlas; Muhammad Nasir Ahmad; Salih Muhammad Lazlam; Musaid Salih 'Abdullah; Ahmad 'Ali al-Qushayri; Sulayman Nasir Muhammad; Awad Nasir al-Jahmah; Ahmad Masud al-Alwani; Faruq 'Ali Ahmad; Hadi Ahmad Nasir; Alawi Husayn Farhan; Ahmad Husayn Musa; 'Ali [name indistinct] Hadi; Mubarak Salim Ahmad; Salim Mubarak Haydrah; Muhammad 'Ali Salih (Tarqhum); 'Abdullah Jabir 'Ali; (?Shayif) Qasim 'Ali; Mubarak Nasir Salim; Uthman Haydrah Muldah; Muhammad Ahmad Haydrah al-Shanbah; Said 'Abd al-Jabbar Aqil; Muhammad 'Ali 'abdullah ba Tays; Salim Muhammad Ahmad al-Shurti; 'Abdullah Abduh Salih; 'Ali Ahmad al-Darb; Nasir Ahmad Jabir; Muhammad 'Ali Miftah; Ahmad Mansur Muhammad Mansur; Sadiq Ahmad Wadi; 'Abdullah Salih Muhammad; Muhammad Husayn 'Ali al-Hasani; salim Salih (al-Abad); Salih Ahmad 'Abd Rabbuh; Salih Ahmad Umar al-Bakhishi; Muhammad Surur 'Ali; 'abdullah Ayyash Isa; Alawi Muhammad 'Abdullah Hazm; Nasir Furhan al-Shaybah; Nasir Muhammad 'Ali Shanab; Salim Awad; Ahmad Muhammad al-Aqil; Salim 'Ali Ahmad (Dadi); Muhammad 'Ali Naji 'Abdullah; 'Abdullah 'Ali Salih; Ahmad Umar Husayn al-Haddad; 'Ali Muhammad Salih al-Qamli; Umar Salim (Jaydan); Husayn Hasan Dahbul; Qasim 'Ali Ahmad (Shatirah); Ahmad 'Ali Nasir al-Zarqum; Mahdi Muhammad Hadi al-Fulin; Salim Muhammad Riziq; Salim Muhammad 'Abd al-Nabi (Bajwan); Muqbil Abdullah (Huwayf); Muhammad Mubarak Marzuq; 'Ali Yislam 'Ali Umurah; Muhammad 'Abd al-Nabi Salih; Al-Qabili Abu Bakr Muqaybil; Yislam Ahmad Faraj [name indistinct]; Muhammad Salih Miskin; 'Ali Muudah Masud.

The third charge: Participation in acts of terrorism contrary to Article 104 as defined by Article 23 of the Penal Code against the following accused persons:

Muhammad 'Abd al-Rahman Khan; Muhammad al-Haj Muhammad; Salih Abu Bakr al-Hamati; Tawfiq Hamid Muqbil; Hasan 'Abdullah Ishaq; Nasir Salim 'Ali al-Azzani; Abd al-Qadir Salih al-Yusufi; Abdullah Yahya Jabir; 'Abdullah Haydarah ba Fayyad; Ahmad Awad Atif; Muhammad Salim al-Aqil; 'Ali Salim 'Abdullah (val-Adi); 'Ali 'Abd al-Nabi Husayn; Nasir Muhammad 'Ali Ubadi.

The fourth charge: Acts of sabotage contrary to Article 106 of the Penal Code against the following accused persons:

'Ali Nasir Muhammad; Ahmad Musaid Husayn; Muhammad 'Ali Ahmad; 'Abdallah 'Ali Ilaywah; Muhammad 'Abdallah Muhammad; 'Abdallah Mansur Hadi; Awad Salih Ubayd; Ahmad Haydarah Said; Muhammad 'Abdallah al-Batani; Sulayman Nasir Masud; Ahmad Awad al-Mahruq; Hasan Ahmad ba Awm; 'Ali Nasir Lakhsha; Salih Husayn al-Zawari; 'Abd Rabbuh Husayn (Musawwar); 'Abdallah Mansur 'Ali; Hamid Ahmad Lamlas; Muhammad Nasir Ahmad; Salih Muhammad Lazlam; Sulayman Nasir Muhammad: Awad Nasir; Alawi Husayn Farhan; Ahmad Husayn Musa; 'Ali Hanash Hadi; Uthman Haydarah Muudah; Muhammad Haydarah al-Shanbah; Said 'Abd al-Jabbar Aqil; 'Abdallah Khamis

Ali (Dadi); Muhammad 'Ali Abdullah Ba Tays; Salim Muhammad Ahmad al-Shurti; 'Abdallah Abduh Salih; 'Ali Ahmad 'Abdullah al-Darb; Nasir Ahmad Jabir; 'Abdullah Haydarah ba Fayyad; Ahmad Mansur Muhammad Mansur; Sadiq Ahmad [name indistinct]; Muhammad Husayn 'Ali al-Husayni; Salim Salih [name indistinct]; Salih Ahmad 'Abd Rabbuh; Muhammad Surur 'Ali; 'Abdullah Ayyash 'Isa; Alawi Muhammad 'Abdallah Hazm; Nasir Muhammad 'Ali Shanab; 'Abdallah 'Ali Salih Tarmum; Ahmad Umar Husayn al-Haddad; 'Ali Muhammad Salih al-Qutaysh; Qasim 'Ali Ahmad Shatirah; Mahdi Muhammad Hadi al-Fulin; Salim Muhammad Riziq; Salim Muhammad 'Abd al-Nabi (Bajwan).

The fifth charge: Participation in acts of sabotage contrary to Article 106 as defined by Article 3 of the same law against the following accused persons:

Tawfiq Hamid Muqbil; Nasir Salim 'Ali al-Azzani; 'Abd al-Qadir Salih al-Yusufi; Muhammad 'Ali Miftah; Salih Ahmad Umar al-Ba-Khishi; 'Ali Salim 'Abdullah (al-Adi); Ahmad 'Ali Nasir al-Zarqum; Nasir Muhammad 'Ali Ubad.

On the basis of what has been referred to above and in accordance with the provisions of Articles 355-375 of the rules for criminal procedure, the court rules in favor of the opening of proceedings against the accused persons in accordance with the details of this ruling with the exception of the following accused persons:

'Ali Awad al-Mashari; Nasir Umar Shaykh; 'Ali Ahmad al-Fayyad; Najib Muhammad Ibrahim; Said Salim al-Aris; Muhammad 'Abdullah (ibn Ajju). The court ruled that their files be referred back to the public prosecutor on the basis of Article 361, Paragraph Jim [fifth letter of the Arabic alphabet], of the rules for criminal procedure and Article 365, paragraph Alif [first letter of the alphabet], of the same law for further investigation; to take measures that have not been completed with regard to the charges against them; and to consider the papers relating to them in this case separately.

During the session, the accused persons requested to sit with their lawyers to study the files of the case. The lawyers also put forward a number of requests, including one to study the original case file, in addition to other documents relating to the case and to sit with the accused. The public prosecutor's office has accepted the requests in accordance with the articles of the rules of criminal procedure.

The court ruled in favor of starting proceedings against the accused on the basis of the details in this report; of conducting the trial in public at the Supreme Court of the Republic starting 2 December 1986; and of trying the fugitives in absentia.

QATAR

Amir Receives UAE Defense Minister in Doha

JN251049 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0950 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Test] Doha, 25 Nov (WAKH) — This morning, Qatari Amir Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani received UAE Defense Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Rashid Al Maktum and the delegation accompanying him. The UAE defense minister is currently visiting Doha.

The meeting was attended by Heir Apparent Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani and the Qatari defense minister. During the meeting, they reviewed bilateral relations and ways to bolster and develop them.

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd, Prince 'Abdallah Receive FRG's Strauss

LD252142 Hamburg DPA in German 1538 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Riyadh, 25 Nov (DPA) — Franz Josef Strauss, Bavarian prime minister and CSU chairman, as part of his visit to Saudi Arabia, was received on Tuesday by Crown Prince 'Abdallah who, as deputy prime minister, is largely concerned with government business. Strauss was received by King Fahd on Monday evening for a 90-minute talk.

At a breakfast by the German ambassador for some 40 representatives of German firms, Strauss pointed out once again, the Saudis' ill-feeling about the German attitude concerning arms sales to Riyadh. Strauss pointed out that former Federal Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and his Economics Minister Count Lambsdorff made concrete promises to Riyadh, but subsequently retracted them. Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl had likewise made a conditional promise which so far had led to nothing.

The German representatives traveling with Strauss at a subsequent meeting showed their disappointment and annoyance over a comment by Ambassador Walter Nowak, who had affirmed the Federal Government'snegative attitude concerning arms exports to Riyadh. [passage omitted]

Interior Minister Leaves for Visit to Syria

LD261142 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1051 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 26 Nov (SPA) — Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz left King Khalid International Airport this afternoon for Syria on an official visit at the invitation of Syrian Interior Minister Muhammad Ghabbash. [passage omitted]

UAE

Statement Reports Attack on Abu Dhabi Oil Fields

NC251756 Dubayy Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Statement issued by the United Arab Emirates — read by announcer]

[Text] Our oil installations in the Abu al-Bukush field, located 100 miles northwest of Abu Dhabi, were subjected this morning, Tuesday 25 November, 1986, (23 Rabi' al-Awwal 1407 Hegira), to air bombardment by a foreign aircraft. As a result, 5 people were killed and 24 others injured, some seriously. Ten persons are reported missing. In addition, extensive material damage was caused to the field's installations.

It has been announced that the Council of Ministers will hold an extraordinary session tomorrow morning, Wednesday, to discuss this vicious aggression and decide on appropriate measures.

The Foreign Ministry has informed the GCC member-states and other friendly countries of the details of this incident.

Cabinet Statement on Attack

JN261127 Dubayy Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] The Council of Ministers held an extraordinary session today Wednesday, 26 November 1986, under Deputy Prime Minister Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad. The Council of Ministers reviewed the attack on the Abu al-Bukush oilfield in the UAE, which led to the death of innocent people and caused heavy material damage in the oilfield. The UAE, which adopts a regional, Arab, and international policy — based on the security and stability of the Gulf region, averting all forms of conflict, settling all problems through peaceful means, and proceeding from its policy in this regard — believes this aggression contributes to the escalating dangers against the region and endangers the peace-loving states' interests and security.

The UAE, which has good relations with the region's states, out of its continuous desire to promote these relations, stresses that it will continue its role in exerting good offices, with the help of its fraternal countries, to end the war between the two Islamic neighbors; to serve the region's security and stability; and to reinforce world peace and security. This is in addition to confirming that the UAE reserves the right to take the necessary measures to protect its security and stability and to safeguard its sovereignty.

Two French Killed in Attack

LD251602 Paris Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] We have just heard that five people, two of whom were French, were killed this morning during an attack on an oil platform in the south of the Persian Gulf by an undentified plane. The attack also resulted in 21 injured. It has not been possible until now to obtain any information on the identity of the two French people working on the platform in the Abu al-Bukush oil fields, which are in the territorial waters of the UAE, for the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company and the French company Total.

President Receives Messages From Arab Leaders

Message from King Fahd

LD260056 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2159 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 25/11/86 (SPA) — UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al-Nuhayyan received a message from his brother King Fahd concerning the attack that took place this morning on al-Bukush oil field in the UAE.

WAM reported that Foreign Minister Undersecretary Shaykh Hamdan ibn Zayid had received the message from Salih al-Sulayman al-Fawzan, Saudi Arabia's ambassador to the UAE, when he received him today in Abu Dhabi.

King Fahd also made a telephone call tonight to Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, the heir apparent and deputy commander in chief of the UAE Armed Force,s concerning the same attack. Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid addressed his thanks to King Fahd for his noble sentiments, which stressed the depth of the strong brotherly relations between King Fahd and UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al-Nuhayyan.

Bahraini, Qatari Leaders Phone

JN260942 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0910 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 26 Nov (WAKH) — Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah held a telephone contact with Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, Abu Dhabi heir apparent and deputy commander in chief of the UAE Armed Forces, on the attack on the Abu al-Bukush oilfield yesterday.

WAM has said Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid thanked the Bahraini amir for his interest and fraternal feelings toward the UAE and stressed the firmness of relations between the two countries.

Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid also received a telephone call from the Qatari heir apparent and defense minister on the attack on Abu al-Bukush oilfield. Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid thanked the Qatari heir apparent for his fraternal feelings toward the UAE, which express the firm relations between the Qatari and UAE peoples.

YAR President Salih Calls

JN252124 Manama WAKH in Arabic 2045 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 25 Nov (WAKH) — Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, Abu Dhabi heir apparent and deputy supreme commander of the UAE Armed Forces, received a telephone call from YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih tonight on the attack on one of the UAE's oil installations this morning.

Shaykh Khalifah thanked the Yemeni president for the fraternal feelings he expressed during the telephone conversation.

YAR

U.S. Congressional Delegation Arrives for Talks

JN252037 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] A U.S. congressional delegation arrived in Sanaa this evening on a 3-day visit to the YAR. Neal Smith, the delegation head, said in a statement to SABA' that he will be holding talks with officials of the People's Constituent Assembly on improving relations between the assembly and the U.S. Congress and on parliamentary matters of common interest to the two bodies.

The U.S. team was greeted by Brother Sinan Abu Luhum, People's Constituent Assembly memebr, and other members, as well as U.S. Ambassador to Sanaa William Arthur.

YAR President Receives Fatah's 'Abbas Zaki

JN241747 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 24 Nov 86

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, YAR president, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received in his office at noon today Brother 'Abbas Zaki, official in charge of foreign relations of Fatah, the Palestine national liberation movement. Zaki briefed the brother president on the latest developments in the Palestinian arena, including the repeated attacks against the Palestinian camps and the Palestinian people's struggle in the occupied land and their steadfastness against the Zionist colonialists who are usurping Palestinian Arab lands.

Brother Zaki also briefed the presidnet on efforts to restore unity of the PLO, which the revolution's tool and means to regain the militant Palestinian people's legitimate rights to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of an independent national state.

The brother president affirmed to Brother 'Abbas Zaki that the YAR backs and supports the Palestinian people's just struggle until they achieve victory and liberate their land. He also stressed the YAR's interest in restoring PLO unity, as the PLO is the major factor for the Palestinian revolution's success in various fields.

Ghali, Israel's Shahal Outline Positions on Peace

NC251635 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1540 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has stressed that one cannot separate Egyptian-Israeli relations from Palestinian-Israeli relations or from real progress toward the Palestinian people's exercise of their legitimate rights.

At his meeting this afternoon with visiting Israeli Energy Minister Moshe Shahal, Dr Ghali stressed the necessity for good intentions and honest efforts by all if the obstacles to a comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East are to be overcome. He also highlighted the importance of an international peace conference, and of quick action to solve the problem of Dayr al-Sultan [Coptic church in East Jerusalem] and to bring about its return to the Egyptian church.

Dr Ghali's talks with Moshe Shahal dealt with the ties between Egypt and Israel in light of recent developments in the region.

In a statement afterward, the Israeli energy minister described his discussions with Dr Ghali as constructive and said they covered Egyptian-Israeli relations and the problems they face. He added that he handed President Husni Mubarak a note from Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir at their meeting yesterday. In addition, he passed along a verbal message from Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres underlining his commitment to what was agreed upon in Alexandria; namely, to hold an international peace conference. He also explained that there have been no changes in this position.

Shahal Leaves for Home

NC251828 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1750 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA) — Israeli Energy Minister Moshe Shahal left Cairo for home this afternoon after a visit of several days to Egypt, during which he was received by President Husni Mubarak.

The Israeli minister also had talks with Petroleum Minister 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil and Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs.

Chemist 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil saw the Israeli minister off at the airport.

Government Condemns Raid on UAE Oil Platform

NC251722 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1545 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA) — Egypt has condemned and expressed its deep concern over today's raid on an oil platform in UAE territorial waters.

This came in a statement by an Egyptian Foreign Ministry spokesman. He noted that Egypt, which has repeatedly called for an end to the Iran-Iraq war, denounces such actions, which could widen the scope of military operations beyond the bounds of the two warring countries. This type of act is designed to heighten tension and to undermine security and stability in the Gulf. The spokesman stressed the importance that Egypt attaches to implementating decisive measures to ensure the safety of fraternal Arab states in that region.

As reported earlier, a floating platform in the Abu al-Bukhush oil field in UAE territorial waters was attacked today by unidentified planes. Six people were injured in the raid.

Abu Ghazalah on U.S.-Egyptian 'Partnership'

NC252117 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1940 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Excerpts] Washington, 25 Nov (MENA) — At the conclusion of his visit to the United States, Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and defense minister, today called on American companies and firms to cooperate with Egypt in both military and civilian production.

In a speech delivered at the first Egyptian symposium of its kind in the American capital, Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah said that Egyptian-American relations should go beyond a stage of friendship and cooperation to a stage of partnership.

In his speech, Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah focused on the mutual advantages and benefits that Egypt and American companies stand to gain from joint production projects in civil and military industries. He said the advantages for Egypt were many. First, its security would be enhanced by the availability of spare parts and equipment required for military production. In addition, the necessary funds would be provided for the purchase of heavy machinery that cannot be produced locally. Second, Egyptian productivity would increase, thus strengthening the economy. Third, more job opportunities would be provided, and Egyptian human resources would be better exploited.

Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah added that, in turn, American companies would benefit from their partnership in Egyptian civil and military projects. He asserted that African and Middle Eastern markets would be capable of absorbing the products of Egyptian-American industries once Egyptian self-sufficiency had been achieved.

Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah noted that this kind of partnership has another dimension; namely, safeguarding security and stability in the Middle East. This also safeguards American interests. He added that no security is possible in the region without Egypt's security and stability.

Abu Ghazalah said: For 10 years or more, we have been talking about friendship and cooperation between Egypt and the United States. It is high time that we embarked on the partnership stage in order to bolster ties of friendship. In this connection, Abu Ghazalah stressed the importance of dealing with the capabilities of the Egyptian people as a whole and of laying down a broad foundation for friendship to safeguard our joint interests. [passage omitted]

Abu Ghazalah asserted that Egypt is serious in its attempts to achieve economic reform and that the atmosphere of stability is favorable.

In response to questions from businessmen, Abu Ghazalah said Egypt is looking forward to manufacturing spare parts for American equipment and weapons, since it currently manufactures spare part for Soviet-made equipment.

He said: Our objective is not to compete with American industry, but rather to produce those things that can be locally manufactured. In this way, he added, we can make the best use of American military aid.

At the end of his speech, he asserted that Egypt would not allow the violation of American laws pertaining to the transfer of advanced technology. He said we are asking only for the treatment given to friendly countries. [passage omitted]

U.S. Contacts About Iranian Dealings Predicted

NC260715 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 26 Nov 86

[From the press review]

[Text] *Al-Ahram* notes today that the crisis over the secret dealings between the United States and Iran took a sudden turn yesterday. President Ronald Reagan announced the resignation of the U.S. national security adviser and his aide and denied knowledge of certain aspects of the operation. Reagan also decided to create an ad hoc committee to investigate the case.

The paper also declares that Washington will soon launch a series of contacts with Arab countries to counter the effect that the dealings have had on U.S.-Arab relations. This will take place in response to the statements made by President Mubarak and King Husayn in Cairo recently.

Ghali, Soviet Envoy View Pending Economic Talks

NC251436 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1400 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, met today with Soviet Ambassador to Cairo Gennadiy Zhuravlev.

Following the meeting, the Soviet ambassador said they had discussed a number of matters of interest to the two countries, including one overriding issue: the arrival of a large Soviet economic delegation in Cairo late tonight for a visit of approximately 1 week. The delegation is led by Viktor Vladimirovich Dementsev, chairman of the board of the Soviet Union's State Bank. The delegation will include 14 Soviet experts on economic and trade affairs, including the deputy foreign trade minister, the vice chairman of the Economic Committee, the vice chairman of the Foreign Trade Bank, and other experts. He added that the delegation will hold talks with an Egyptian group led by Economy Minister Dr Yusri Mustafa.

The Soviet ambassador said in his statement that the Egyptian-Soviet economic talks will deal with financial relations, loans, military debts, and the exchange rate. The discussions will also involve issues related to signing an economic and trade cooperation protocol, which is expected during this visit.

Asked his views on solving the economic problems between the two countries, the Soviet ambassador said: I an convinced that both parties want to find means acceptable to both.

Replying to another question, the ambassador said the protocol to be discussed and signed will establish the volume of trade exchange and increase the volume of goods exchanged between the two countries.

We have also learned that Dr Ghali expressed during the meeting his hope that the Soviet economic delegation's visit to Egypt will result in solutions to the economic and financial issues pending between Egypt and the Soviet Union.

Economic Delegation Arrives

NC260812 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0615 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Cairo, 26 Nov (MENA) — A high-ranking Soviet economic delegation arrived in Cairo early this morning. The delegation, led by Viktor Dementsev, chairman of the board of the Soviet Union's State Bank, will be visiting Egypt for several days at the invitation of Dr Yusri Mustafa, minister of economy and foreign trade.

Following his arrival, Dementsev said that the Soviet delegation will hold talks with the Egyptians on economic issues. He mentioned that this is the third round of talks. The first two rounds were held in Moscow in March and were very successful, he added.

Dementsev said that these talks indicate that Egyptian-Soviet relations are improving remarkably, particularly in the areas of trade and economy. A sustained improvement in these relations and in bilateral cooperation is desired by both countries, the Soviet official said.

Dementsev mentioned that he will be meeting with Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi, Economy Minister Dr Yusri Mustafa, with other Egyptian officials. [passage omitted]

Prime Minister Sidqi Receives CSSR Delegation

NC251240 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1220 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi today met with a Czechoslovak parliamentary delegation led by Jan Marko, first deputy chairman of the Czechoslovak Federal Assembly, currently visiting Cairo. Means of bolstering cooperation between the two countries, particularly in the economic, trade, and technological fields, were discussed during the meeting, which was also attended by Muhammad 'Abdallah, chairman of the people's Assembly Foreign Relations Committee.

Officials Confer With Palestinian Delegation

NC251444 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1405 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA) — People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub received a Palestinian delegation today that included PLO Executive Committee Secretary Jamal al-Surani and PLO Representative in Cairo al-Tayyib 'Abd al-Rahim. Consultative Council Speaker Dr 'Ali Lutfi also received the two Palestinian officials.

According to a Palestinian spokesman, discussion during the two meetings dealt with Israel's repressive measures and practices in the occupied Arab territories and the current developments in Lebanon. The talks also focused on bilateral relations within the framework of ongoing consultations between Egypt and the PLO.

Paper Notes Husayn-Mubarak 'Identity of Views'

JN260714 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 24 Nov 86 p 5

[Editorial: "Egypt, Jordan, and Common Positions"]

[Text] Yesterday's meeting between President Mubarak and King Husayn of Jordan took up many issues and subjects, making it especially important. Given the excellent and distinctive relations between the two countries and the complete rapport between Mubarak and Husayn, it was inevitable that they state their viewpoints on developments, discuss them thoroughly, and then take joint positions. This should be a model for international relations.

If the cause of peace dominated the discussions of the two leaders yesterday, this is natural and logical, given the major parts played by their countries and their responsibility for peace efforts in the Middle East. During the discussions, the two sides confirmed their positions regarding the need for an international conference on peace in the Middle East to be attended by all concerned parties and the UN Security Council permanent members. This confirmation came after the call received widespread support from most nations, as made clear by a good number of delegates addressing the 41st UN General Assembly session the day before yesterday. They declared their support for convening such a conference.

We come to a second vitally important point that commanded the attention of the two leaders; that is, the secret contacts between the United States and Iran, and the U.S. arms deal with Iran. President Mubarak and King Husayn agreed that this clandestine deal placed at stake the credibility of the United States in the Arab world. Doubtlessly, this meeting and the statements made about it underscore an identity of views between Egypt and Jordan. It has furnished a model for making decisions in times of crisis. We hope it will encourage all the Arab countries to take common positions that may restore their standing in the international community.

Wafd Party Leader Calls for New Constitution

JN240900 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 22 Nov 86 pp 24, 25

[Interview with New Wafd Party Leader Fu'ad Siraj al-Din by correspondent Fatimah 'Anan in Cairo — date not given]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] ['Anan] You have lived through many regimes in Egypt: King Fu'ad, King Faruq, Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir, Anwar al-Sadat, and Husni Mubarak. What opinion do you have of each of them?

[Siraj al-Din][passage omitted] As for President Husni Mubarak, we agree with him on his foreign and Arab policy but differ with him on his domestic policy. I have stated my opinion of President Mubarak more than once. I have attested many times that he is calm, honest, and one who, through his wisdom, has eliminated all the prejudices that prevailed during his predecessor's era. He also released all the detainees, allowed suspended papers to reappear, and gave the political parties freedom of movement. Opposition papers also enjoy complete freedom with respect to what they publish. I have also said that all this is indubitably part of the democracy Husni Mubarak believes in and to which he is committed. But I have appealed and continue to appeal to him to complete this democratic process, which cannot be restricted to certain democratic manifestations as is the case now. The democracy we are advocating requires the promulgation of a new constitution that will be enacted by a constituent assembly elected by the people through fair elections. The present constitution was enacted under the canopy of the one party and gives the rulers full power at the expense of the people. The head of state must also be elected through direct suffrage and not on the basis of a plebiscite on the name the People's Assembly nominates. The new constitution must also stipulate the principle of complete ministerial responsibility, the separation of powers, and the right for the People's Assembly to amend the chapters of the state budget. [passage omitted]

['Anan] Some believe that the editorial style of the Wafd paper, which uses metonomy, metaphors, and gives satirical titles and nicknames to public figures and ministers, is very much removed from the objectivity of the press and the ethics of the profession. Some even accuse you of personally behind this style to raise the paper's circulation?

[Siraj al-Din] The wide circulation of the paper, which surprises everyone, is not due to the style of the paper but by the general policy to which the paper is committed and to the political mission it undertakes. As for the satirical style to which you refer, this is not something new in the Egyptian press. It has been practised over the past 50 years. [passage omitted]

['Anan] What is your opinion of the press in the past and at present?

[Siraj al-Din] There is a very big difference. The press in the past was not state-owned as is the case now. It used to enjoy complete freedom. The state now controls the major newspapers and calls them national papers, which is far from the truth. These papers serve the ruling party alone. [passage omitted] The surprising thing is that these national papers are those whose freedom is restricted. They only publish what the government wants them to publish or what it dictates on them while the opposition papers enjoy complete freedom. [passage omitted]

['Anan] What is your relationship with the Islamic groupings, and what is your opinion of the woman's veil and the head cover that began to appear during Al-Sadat's era?

[Siraj al-Din] As a political party, we have nothing to do with the Islamic groupings. The extremism some of these groupings practice is not an indication that all the Islamic groupings are extremists. The new Wafd Party condemns extremism and the recourse to violence. However, the Wafd Party now strongly condemns the torture which is taking place in prisons against individuals who belong to these groups. As for the phenomenon of the woman's veil and the head cover that has spread over the past years, I believe there is no harm in the head cover as it shows the face. As for the veil, this is something I cannot understand and completely reject.

['Anan] Left-wing writer Salah Hafiz accused the Wafd Party of seeking to please the Islamic groupings. He said that your party as well as all the opposition parties are currying their favor and that the opposition parties will not succeed in extricating Egypt from its tribulations and problems unless they change their opportunistic policies and their conciliation with the advocates of fascism, killings, and sabotage. He also says that you will never save Egypt if you continue to play into Iran's hands. What do you have to say to this?

[Siraj al-Din] We did not defend the Islamic groupings or the incidents of which they have been accused. We leave this to the competent authorities and the judiciary. However, we have criticized and will continue to strongly criticize the torture of the members of these groupings. [passage omitted] As for his claim that the political parties are playing into Iran's hands, this is completely false. I do not think he had the Wafd Party in mind because this party did not say one word in support for Iran. All the statements that have been made by the Wafd Party or the articles published in its newspaper are in support of Iraq.

['Anan] What is your stand on the Iraq-Iran war, and can the opposition play a role for ending this war and attaining Iran-Iraq accord?

[Siraj al-Din] We have repeatedly stated in our statements and writings our denunciation of the Iranian stand because Iran insists on pursuing the war and rejects all initiatives to reconcile it with Iraq. It is very clear that this war has greatly harmed the two countries and that the only beneficiary from this war is Israel. I believe that in view of Iran's intransigent stands, the opposition parties have no chance to seek peace between the two countries. [passage omitted]

Communiques, Reports on Latest Fighting

Air Force Raids Targets

JN251509 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1430 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Communique No 2,456 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 25 November 1986]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] To make the Khomeyniites know their true size, to deprive them of all the evil means they possess, and to wrest from them all the means of aggression, 54 planes took off at the same time with their full load guided by our daring eagles at 1130 today to pound the following enemy targets:

1. Our eagles destroyed 150 depots and warehouses for military hardware and weapons in Dezful camp, leaving them to the mercy of the explosions.

2. They raided the two air bases in Dezful, dismembering their targets.

3. They attacked the (Daku) camp to pound its installations and the enemy personnel, military hardware, and weapons in it.

4. They fired at the training camps of the charlatan Khomeyni Guards in Dezful, wiping out the enemy remnants in them.

5. They pounded the Andimeskh railroad station used for military transportation purposes, reducing it to rubble.

6. They raided a surface-to-air Hawk missile battery in Dezful and destroyed it.

After carrying out all these duties, our brave eagles safely and triumphantly returned, rejoicing over their accomplishments, with the exception of one plane which crashed over enemy territory. We hold the Iranian side responsible for the safety of its pilot. Glory to our unique Air Force men — commanders, eagles, officers, and other ranks. Let the Khomeyniites realize that death will continue to hover over them in retaliation for what they did and will do. We congratulate great Iraq on its victory. Let Iraq continue to enjoy pride and dignity under the banner of hero Saddam Husayn, the leader of victory and the knight of the nation. God, you have granted us much. You are the best supporter.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 November 1986

'Large' Maritime Target Hit

JN251513 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1450 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Statement by military spokesman dated 25 November 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Further to our communique No 2,456 issued this afternoon, our heroic Air Force continued to deal severe blows against God's enemy and our country's enemy. Our brave eagles dealt an accurate and effective blow against a large maritime target off the Iranian coast at 1232 today, after which they safely returned with their planes to the homeland under God's guidance and protection.

[Dated] 25 November 1986

Larak Port Attack Detailed

JN251737 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1645 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Iraqi communique No 2,457 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 25 November 1986]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. It left nothing whatever of what it came up against, but reduced it to ruin and rot. [Koranic verse] God is great, God is great, God is great. Birds of prey, follow us to the battlefield. Great people, courageous soldiers, and sons of our glorious Arab nation, this time it is Larak, the principal oil terminal on which the enemy depends after everying else in its way has been blocked. This is the island located in a remote area of the Hormuz Strait and at the southern gate of the Arab Gulf. This island is more than 1,250 km from the borders of this beloved homeland. [passage omitted]

Great people, in accordance with the sound directives of our great leader, inspired by his enlightened mind, drawing courage from his courage, and resulting from his meticulous planning, the hopes of which we aspire have materialized, justice has been upheld, and wrong has been squashed. Larak was struck. At 1347 today, the Iraqi planes were plowing their way guided by your noble eagles who have a deep love of Iraq and Iraq's leader. They fired their missiles toward the set targets, pounding the Larak port and the oil reservoirs, loading platforms, vessels, military hardware, and the rogues in the area. Throughout this long distance and thanks to meticulous field planning by their command, our eagles succeeded in penetrating the strong enemy defense lines and selected their targets with their scrutinizing eyes. After transforming the Larak port into rubble and blazing fire, our eagles safely returned with their planes to the homeland protected by God and bringing glad tidings to leader Saddam Husayn and to the great Iraqi people. [passage omitted]

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 November 1986

Lloyds Says Three Tankers Hit

JN252002 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1915 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] London, 25 Nov (INA) — The British Lloyds Insurance Company has announced that three oil tankers were hit near the Iranian Larak Island coast today. Lloyds told the INA office in London a short while ago that the three tankers, whose names have not been revealed, were hit at (?1131).

Two Cypriot Tankers Hit

NC251806 Nicosia Domestic Service in Greek 1730 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Three tankers, two of them flying the Cyprus flag, were hit today by Iraqi planes during a raid on Iranian oil terminal installations at Larak Island, at the entrance to the Persian Gulf. Maritime sources in Bahrain said that fire broke out on the two Cypriot tankers and that Iranian helicopters are removing victims from the vessels. No further details are available.

One Cypriot Tanker Identified

JN252032 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1930 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] London, 25 Nov (INA) — The British Lloyds Insurance Company said a short while ago that a Cypriot tanker named (*Antarctica*) was hit in the Arab Gulf area today. Lloyds did not give any other details on where the incident took place or the damage sustained by the Cypriot tanker, which was previously called (*Tatra*). However, Lloyds told the INA office in London that the tanker weights 12,787 metric tons, was built in 1972, and is run by the London-based (Kaba) Company. A subsequent Lloyds cable said that the tanker was hit while anchored near the Iranian Larak Island coast along with two other tankers.

Larak Raid Part of 'New Plan'

JN252026 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1920 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Cable from Lieutenant General Hamid Sha'ban, commander of the Air Force and Air Defense, to President Saddam Husayn on 25 November 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. We will, without doubt, help our apostles and those who believe, both in this life and on the day when the witnesses go forth, the day when the wrongdoers will not profit from their excuses, but they will only have the curse and the home of misery. [Koranic verse]

His excellency the president leader: The Air Force brings glad tidings to the leader of victories. The first stage of the new plan with respect to the spectacular air actions has succeeded. This plan seeks the quick destruction of the despotic enemy's economic and military mainstays out of our firm legitimate right to defend our homeland and its sacred values. In accordance with your excellency's wise central directives and with the success granted by Almighty God, a fierce air strike was carried out against the Iranian port of Larak in the Hormuz Strait at 1347 today. The enemy imagined that this center for the export of oil could not be reached by the Iraqi eagles. Fulfilling their pledge to you, they turned enemy installations into rubble. Victory is the fate which befits Iraq and all its men. After carrying out their mission, the eagles safely returned to the homeland. Your excellency: What awaits the enemy in the coming days is the frustration of defeat and God's blows at our hands. This is the option the ememy has chosen for itself. We pledge to the leader of the march that we will remain brandished swords until victory or martyrdom. We ask God to preserve you as leader of our nation on the road to victory and resurgence. Long live our nation in a dignified manner and upholding the good mission. God grants success.

[Signed] Lieutenant General Hamid Sha'ban, commander of the Air Force and Air Defense, on 25 November 1986

Air Raids, Shelling Cited

JN251756 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1705 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Communique No 2,458 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 25 November 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With the courage of loyal, faithful men, our valiant Armed Forces continued their combat activities, inflicting further losses on the aggressors.

The following is a roundup of our activities for last night and today:

1. Subsequent to our Communique No 2,456, issued late this afternoon, our heroic Air Force planes carried out 164 combat missions today during which they launched violent raids on the Khomeyniite forces in the operational sectors, further destroying their concentrations, weapons, and equipment. At 1233 today, our bold aircraft carried out a successful raid on a large maritime target of the Iranian coast, scoring an accurate and effective hit. All our aircraft returned safely to base, praise be to God.

2. A force from our hero soldiers in the II Army Corps launched a successful raid on the enemy positions opposite our units in the central sector, destroying some enemy positions and burning an ammunition dump before they returned safely to base, praised be God. Our units in this sector also spotted and pounded an enemy group, inflicting losses in personnel, in addition to destroying seven infantry positions, hitting an enemy soldier, and setting an ammunition dump ablaze.

3. Our units in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah opened intensive artillery and mortar fire, killing an enemy soldier and destroying two infantry positions, a medium-caliber machine gun, and an ammunition dump.

4. Fleeing the charlatan vagabonds ruling in Iran, some Iranian civilians sought refuge with our forward units on the frontlines. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

5. The charlatan Khomeyni forces shelled Basra, Al-Qurnah, Mandali, Khanaqin, and Biyarah with long-range artillery yesterday evening and today, injuring 9 civilians, including 4 women and 1 child; demolishing 4 houses; and damaging 14 houses, 1 hospital, 2 buildings, 1 civilian restaurant, and 1 civilian car in Basra; injuring 3 civilians and damaging 13 houses, 4 buildings, 1 hotel, 1 civilian restaurant, and 3 cars in the Al-Qurnah District; and demolishing 5 houses in Mandali District. A quick recovery to our wounded, God willing. We have prepared hell for the blasphemous.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 November

1986

Missile Attack Kills 48

JN260717 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0646 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 26 November 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The regime of agents and have made an exposed, frustrated attempt to hide the scandal of political coordination and cooperation in arms with Zionism and its entity and with world imperialism, a scandal which irrefutably branded the agents and liars with shame. They have made a futile attempt to divert attention from their grave losses, both in men and resources, at the hands of our brave pilots and courageous fighters on the battlefield. They have acted on their black spite against our people's progress, steadfastness, and triumphs and the world's respect for their struggle and stands. To accomplish this, the scoundrels of the Khomeyniite clique resorted to a cowardly act.

They directed a missile at a heavily populated Baghdad area last night. The missile martyred 48 civilians, including 17 women and 13 children. The missile also injured 52 other civilians, destroyed 5 houses, and heavily damaged 35 houses and 33 civilian cars. Iraq, which until now has refrained from hitting purely residential areas, will use its destructive power to retaliate against these heinous crimes when the hour of vengeance arrives. From God we seek mercy and forgiveness for our martyrs and speedy recovery for our injured citizens.

[Dated] 26 November 1986

Ramadan Receives PRC Party Delegation

JN252042 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, received a delegation from the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee's indoctrination school today. Discussion during the meeting dealt with bilateral relations. The two sides reaffirmed the need to promote relations between the Ba'th Party and the Chinese Communist Party through the continuation of meetings on all levels. The meeting was attended by members of the Ba'th Party National Command Foreign Relations Office.

PLO's Yasir 'Arafat Arrives in Baghdad

JN252110 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2055 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Nov (INA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Baghdad this evening. He was welcomed by the head and members of the RCC Arab Liberation Movements Office and the PLO office director in Baghdad.

Foreign Ministry Official's Speaks at UNGA

JN251102 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0930 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] United Nations, 25 Nov (INA) — Iraq has called on the UN General Assembly to take the necessary measures regarding the Zionist enemy's usurpation of the Arab territory and to stop its hostile, terrorist, and expansionist policy in the region.

In a statement before the UN General Assembly during its discussion of the Palestine question last night, Iraqi Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Nuri Isma'il Luwayyis urged the UN General Assembly to exert intensified efforts to foil the Zionist attempts to expel the Palestinian people from occupied Palestine. He said that the Zionist occupation of Palestine, which is based on the iron fist policy, the establishment of settlements, the demolishing of Arab citizens' houses, practicing all forms of terroristic and repressive measures against them, and on expelling them from their land, has spread to neighboring states. He added that the Zionist aggression has included the Iraqi nuclear installations which are designed for peaceful purposes, the PLO's headquarters in Tunis, and Lebanon.

He said that the escalation of tension, disturbances, and bloody conflicts in the Middle East region is mainly due to ignoring the Palestinian people's inalienable rights. He added that Israel would not have been able to do all this without the support it receives from the United States.

He said that the recent developments in the international arena have proved that there is a new form of cooperation between Israel and the United States regarding supplying Iran with weapons with the objective of prolonging the Iraq-Iran war. He said that a just and lasting peace in the Middle East cannot be achieved without granting the Palestinian people their right to self-determination and to establishing their own independent state, and without implementing the UN resolutions to alleviate the sufferings of the region's peoples, particularly the Palestinian people.

King Husayn on PLO, International Conference

NC260855 Cairo MENA in Arabic
0805 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 26 Nov (MENA) — King Husayn of Jordan has reiterated that peace can only be attained through the convocation of an international conference based on UN Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, involving the return of the land in exchange for peace, and the settlement of all aspects of the Palestinian issue.

In an interview appearing in today's edition of the magazine *Akhir Sa'ah*, King Husayn added that the steps taken toward the convention of the international conference stumbled because the PLO would not take the stand necessary to produce the desired results, insisting instead on its rejection of the Security Council resolutions. This PLO decision prompted the cessation of coordination between Jordan and the PLO.

The Jordanian monarch expressed the hope that the Palestinian people, acting through their legitimate representative, the PLO, will realize their goals, and that the PLO will take the suffering of the Palestinians in the occupied territories into consideration in its positions.

King Husayn went on to express his conviction that if the PLO represents the genuine desires of the Palestinian people, it will be highly capable of playing a positive role in the achievement of peace. King Husayn added that the halt in coordination with the PLO leaders as a result of their rejection of resolutions 242 and 338 does not necessarily mean that the Palestinian problem will be resolved in the absence of participation by the Palestinian people and the PLO, which is recognized as their representative.

King Husayn concluded the interview by emphasizing that the international conference is the sole key to peace. He said that he is continuing his coordination and consultations with President Husni Mubarak to work out a unified decision, because this is the sole way to end the stalemate and reactivate the issue.

King Receives Phone Call From Saddam Husayn

JN251618 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Amman — King Husayn received a telephone call from President Saddam Husayn of Iraq this afternoon. The Iraqi president reassured the king about the sound situation on all the battlefronts with Iran as well as about Iraq's brave sons who defend the eastern flank of the Arab nation and bravely confront Iran's abortive attempts to harm the Iraqi lands. King Husayn expressed to President Saddam Husayn his satisfaction with the heroic position of the brave Iraqi people in defending Iraq and the Arab land as well as with their high morale and readiness to conquer the Iranian enemy. His majesty also affirmed to President Saddam Husayn Jordan's complete support for fraternal Iraq.

Al-Masri Meets EEC States' Ambassadors

JN251327 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Foreign Affairs Minister Tahir al-Masri met with the EEC states' ambassadors in Amman today. During the meeting, they discussed a number of issues related to relations between Jordan and the EEC states.

Al-Rifa'i Meets Turkish Industry Minister

JN251331 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i received in his office this morning Turkish Industry and Commerce Minister Cahit Aral, in the presence of Dr Raja'e al-Mu'ashir, minister of trade, industry, and supply.

During the meeting, they discussed bilateral relations and ways to enhance and develop them in all areas in a manner that serves the interests of the Jordanian and Turkish peoples. The meeting was attended by the Turkish ambassador in Amman.

Protocol Signed

JN251705 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Amman — Turkish Industry and Commerce Minister Cahit Aral and his delegation left Amman this afternoon after a 5-day visit to Jordan. During the visit, Aral and Industry and Trade Minister Dr Raja'i al-Mu'ashshir signed a protocol on economic and trade cooperation between the two countries. He was seen off at Queen Alia International Airport by the industry and trade minister, the ministry's under secretary, and the Turkish ambassador in Amman.

AL-RA'Y Urges Steps to Restore U.S. Credibility

JN251148 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
25 Nov 86 pp 1, 20

[Editorial: "A Message to Washington"]

[Text] During the meeting yesterday at Al-Nadwah Palace between King Husayn and members of the U.S. Congressional Military Affairs Committee, his majesty emphasized Jordan's constant position toward the Palestinian issue and its insistence on seeking a just and comprehensive solution to this issue through holding an international conference with the participation of all concerned sides, including the UN Security Council members. His majesty explained the Jordanian view — which is identical with the Arab view — on the U.S. supply of weapons to Iran. He stressed that Jordan stands by Iraq in the just war it is waging to defend its territories and freedom.

King Husayn's assertions to the U.S. delegation indicate that the U.S. conduct in the region will not alter Jordan's position toward the Palestinian issue and toward the Iraq-Iran war. These assertions constitute a clear message to the U.S. administration expressing dismay and astonishment at the U.S. fanning of this war.

Needless to say, Jordan's position is a translation of the Arab position. Reiterating this position before the U.S. Congressional delegation stresses that the Arabs are determined to commit themselves to this position and adhere to it regardless of the U.S. duplicity toward the Iraq-Iran war — a duplicity which has harmed the U.S. credibility in the region and raised questions about the true U.S. intentions toward the peace process, the Palestinian issue, and on the Arab and European levels. This is represented by the British newspaper *Financial Times'* call to the European countries to adopt a common and independent policy toward the Palestinian issue and toward the Iraq-Iran war after the United States failed to express the views of the West toward these issues. Therefore, the time has come when voices are raised in Europe calling for joint European action toward these two issues without abiding by the U.S. policy — which has lost its representation of the West's policy.

If the U.S. Government manages to grasp the assertions made by King Husayn yesterday to the Congressional delegation, it must move quickly and seriously to restore its credibility through responding to the international will which calls for convening an international conference to gear the Palestinian issue toward a just and comprehensive solution, and responding to the international will which calls for an end to the Iraq-Iran war which is threatening world peace.

AL-RA'Y Urges Joint Arab Action After Talks

JN242058 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
24 Nov 86 pp 1, 22

[Editorial: "King Husayn and Joint Arab Action"]

[Text] King Husayn returned to Amman yesterday following intensive and successful talks which he and the delegation accompanying him held in Cairo with President Husni Mubarak and senior Egyptian officials. Important factors emerged in the joint press conference held by King Husayn and President Mubarak following their three-day working session. These factors can be concluded from answers to the questions put to them at the press conference. They are:

1. The peace process within the context of the Palestinian question was the principal topic discussed during the talks. The two leaders also discussed the steps to be made in the future to convene an international conference and the preparations for the conference.

2. The U.S. arms deal with Iran has raised questions about the real intentions of the Reagan administration to bring about a just solution to the Palestinian question. This issue provides yet another reason for the need to concentrate on convening an international conference to avoid internationalizing the question and turning it into a conflict between the superpowers.

3. The objectives of Israel's settlements policy in the occupied territory is creating repercussions which impede the convening of an international conference.

In light of these facts, it transpires that the international conference was the common factor in the issues discussed during the Husayn-Mubarak talks and that the conference is facing a U.S.-Israeli plot to kill it. The plot is represented by the United States fanning the Iraqi-Iranian war and by Israel escalating its settlements policy, in the hope that the fanning of the Iraqi-Iranian war will lead to the fall of the Palestinian question to a lower position on the agenda of international priorities, while the escalation of the settlements policy will lead to the gradual erosion of the Palestinian question.

Needless to say, such U.S.-Israeli cooperation to kill the international conference and the Palestinian question is not the first of its kind. It has been preceded by another kind of cooperation to achieve the same objective — cooperation in the attempt to depict terrorism as an Arab issue. U.S.-Israeli cooperation in both spheres continues and is escalating daily.

Therefore, there is greater need now than at any time in the past for joint Arab action to confront such plots and abort them so an international conference may convene and so the Palestinian question may be saved from the evil intentions which are harbored against it. Perhaps Arab leaders will shoulder their national responsibility in that regard.

Al-Jumayyil, Swedish Minister Discuss South

NC251207 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil met with Swedish Defense Minister Roine Carlsson for 1 hour this morning. The Swedish minister had just arrived in Beirut from Damascus. Following the meeting, (Nelson Belinger), press spokesman for the Swedish official, stated: The meeting was a good one. We exchanged information about the situation in Lebanon. The discussion was constructive.

When asked whether he believes UNIFIL will be able to perform its duty in the future, he replied: Our government is carefully examining the situation in the south in light of the UN secretary general's report. His evaluation that UNIFIL should carry out its mission to stabilize the situation and help the inhabitants is very important. Questioned about the arrival of new UN troops in the south, he said they would arrive in the next day. Regarding Carlsson's talks in Damascus yesterday, (Belinger) stated they had focused on the situation in southern Lebanon and were constructive.

Iranian Official Meets With Sha'ban in Tripoli

LD261035 Tehran IRNA in English 0925 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Damascus, Nov. 26, IRNA — A member of the Iranian delegation visiting Lebanon and Syria, Hojjat ol-Eslam Shaykh Hasan Ibrahimi, met with the leader of Lebanon's Tawhid [Islamic Unification] Movement, Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, in Tripoli Tuesday. Shaykh Ibrahimi is the chief of Ayatollah Montazeri's bureau in Qom.

The two sides discussed plots of imperialism and their agents in the region in sowing discord between Shia and Sunni Muslims. They also agreed that these plots served the interests of arrogance and aimed at deviating Muslims' anti-Zionist struggles.

Shaykh Sha'ban emphasized that due to the imminent Iranian victory in the Iraqi imposed war, certain compromisers who are allied with Saddam Husayn intend to weaken the Islamic Revolution's movement in Lebanon by creating division in the rank of Muslims.

He also praised Iran's efforts in solving the problems of the Muslims and consolidating the foundations of unity among them. He also announced support for the communique recently issued by Shi'ite and Sunni ulema following a joint assembly at the Iranian Embassy in Beirut.

Amal Claims To Foil Israeli Landing Operation

NC251952 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1943 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] We have just received this report: The fighters of the Amal Movement have foiled an attempt by the crews of Israeli gunboats to stage a landing operation near the town of Al-Saksakiyah in Al-Zahrani. The aggressors were forced to flee.

Amal Announces Recapture of Maghdushah

NC251900 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1530 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] The Amal Movement's Central Information Bureau has released the following statement: Amal forces have liberated Maghdushah and restored its Lebanese character. The remaining Palestinian mercenaries have taken to their heels. We will not chant the slogans of victory over the bodies of the dead or amid all the destroyed vehicles, nor will we liquidate prisoners of war or execute the wounded, as the Palestinians did in Maghdushah yesterday. They tricked their people into thinking they had scored a victory. We will not gloat over this, for we have no axes to grind. We are advocates of a mission that is an extension of the prophet's work. It is not in our nature to gloat.

We announced our opposition to this war yesterday, and we were acting in self-defense. We told everyone of our desire to avoid a return to the state of affairs which prevailed before 1982, as that era brought Israel to Beirut and allowed the Phalangists to establish their sectarian regime. Some parties agreed on this, but failed to go beyond verbal opposition. We, however, did our duty, and defended the Lebanese process of decisionmaking. We tried to show our goodwill and our wish to stop the incidents in and around the camps. We would not permit Yasir 'Arafat to use southern Lebanon again as a card to enter into negotiations for surrender. 'Arafat answered our good intentions with bad ones and destroyed the situation in Al-Rashidiyah. He then went on to commit the crime of Al-Shawakir and to stir things up in Burj al-Barajinah and in areas east of Sidon.

At last, the masks and paper walls between him and those who proclaim salvation have fallen. They have concluded an unholy alliance, with Maghdushah as their first victim. The others thought the hollow triumph would endure, and they freely expressed their spite and desire to see things as they were before 1982. They even aggravated the political situation. Our forces regained the initiative today, and the aggressors were taught a lesson in Maghdushah. They now realize the Amal Movement is patient, but unwilling to ignore its principles. It is right and capable of retaliating at the proper time. The declaration stressed the following points:

We favor a political solution to the camps problem in line with the principles laid down by the brother leader of the Amal Movement. In short, decisionmaking in the south is the province of its people, who resisted Israel; no autonomous security for the Palestinians; and, lastly, the perpetrators of the al-Shawakir massacre, the Al-Mashnuq incident, and the Maghdushah fighting are to be handed over for punishment. We hold the Palestinians responsible for the safety of the hostages from the Amal Movement and the Lebanese Army, whom they claim to have in their custody.

100 Casualties Reported

NC251628 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Excerpts] [Passage omtted] In the south, vicious fighting continues in Maghdushah, particularly around Tallat al-Sayyidah. A heavy exchange of artillery fire has been reported there. Reports indicate that 100 Amal and Palestinian gunmen have been killed and a further 100 wounded during the past 24 hours.

The Association of the Sons of Maghdushah has issued an appeal warning of an impending human tragedy for the residents of the town as a result of food shortages. It called on the International and Lebanese Red Cross Societies to intervene immediately to save the citizens.

Hizballah 'Intervenes'

NC251525 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Hizballah leaders have released the following statement:

In the latest battles between the Amal Movement and the Palestinians yesterday, the fighting spread to certain villages in the area, captured by various military groups. Following this, brothers in Hizballah intervened by participating alongside the Amal Movement. They regained the villages of Maghdushah and Zighdraya, and restored calm there. This goal was achieved after a violent artillery duel.

Amal Attacks Shatila Camp

NC251823 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] A responsible source in the Palestinian National Salvation Front announced this evening that the Amal Movement has transferred the fighting to Shatila, which had been declared neutral. According to the source, members of the joint committee, who were doing their duty by removing ramparts and other signs of military activity, were suddenly surrounded at 1630 and fired on by Amal militiamen near the Ariha combat line. Some of Amal's tanks also shot at the camp without warning, and fighting erupted along all its axes.

The source concluded: We are still committed to the cease-fire, and we hope our brothers in the Amal leadership will control their gunmen.

Palestinians Recapture Town

NC251931 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] According to an urgent AFP report from Sidon received a short while ago, Palestinian fighters succeeded in regaining control over the whole of Maghdushah this evening. This followed ferocious battles with Amal Movement militiamen who recaptured some areas of the town this morning.

Amal Denies Recapture

NC251955 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1940 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Mahmud Faqih, the Amal official in charge of organization in the south, has denied reports that the Palestinian gunmen have recaptured the town of Maghdushah. He said these reports are without foundation and the Amal Movement is in total control of the town. Meanwhile, Palestinian gunmen have sought to cover up their defeat by unleashing a heavy artillery bombardment on most of the villages in the Al-Zahrani area.

PLO Seizure of Town 'Confirmed'

NC252017 (Clandestine) Voice of The Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 2000 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Excerpt][Passage omitted] Some time ago, an official of the joint military committee for the defense of the camps confirmed the fall of Maghdushah to the Palestinians. Information received by the Internal Security Forces has also substantiated this report.

Amal Warns Beirut Camps

NC261010 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Excerpts] An official military source in the Amal Movement has declared the following:

The Palestinian gangs continue to demolish houses and installations in areas around Maghdushah within a major offensive in which all types of weapons are being employed. The Palestinians are trying to regain the positions the Amal Movement recaptured. The Amal Movement has intercepted a number of radio messages sent by Palestinian leaders to the Beirut camps of Burj al-Barajinah, Sabra, and Shatila instructing them to ignite the situation on the streets of the capital, to cut the airport road and to deploy outside the camps. These orders were carried out by elements from these camps yesterday afternoon and this morning. This prompted the Amal Movement to intervene immediately and to tighten the noose around the Sabra and Shatila camps, to prevent the Palestinians gangs from storming Beirut. [passage omitted]

The source added that the Amal Movement wishes to advise the Palestinians to remain in Sabra and Shatila if they wish to save their own lives, otherwise they will be responsible for the destruction that will rain down upon their kinfolk. The Palestinians know very well that the situation in these two camps has been calm because they have not participated in the current developments. Amal would like the situation there to remain calm, so the two camps and neighboring areas can be saved.

The Amal Movement also warns Burj al-Barajinah to stay out of the current events, because the limited operation that Amal carried out this morning was only to defend our kinfolk and secure the safe movement of Lebanese citizens. Any attack will be deterred with force.

Jallud Meets Lebanese, Palestinian Officials

LD252219 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] In Damascus, Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud continued his condensed meetings with the various leaders and effective elements of the Lebanese patriotic forces and the Palestine National Salvation Front in order to stop the bloodshed in south Lebanon.

Within this framework, this evening Staff Maj Jallud conferred with George Hawi, secretary general of the Lebanese Communist Party; Mustafa Ma'ruf Sa'd, secretary of the Nasirite Popular Organization-Sidon; (Asim Qunsuwah), regional secretary of Socialist Ba'th party in Lebanon; and In'am Ra'd and (Asim al-Muhayri), representing the Syrian Social Pan-Arab Party in Lebanon.

For the same purpose — to stop bloodshed in Lebanon — Staff Maj Jallud conferred with leaders of the Palestine National Salvation Front, who are Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] and Khalid al-Amlah; members of the revolutionary command of Fatah movement; Talal Naji, assistant secretary general of the PFLP-General Command; (Samir Ghusah); secretary general of the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front; (Abu Mahir al-Yamani), representing the PFLP; and Muhammad Khalifah, the secretary general of Al-Sa'iqah Organization.

Staff Maj Jallud's meetings with these leaders will continue until the situation comes under control and a cease-fire is established.

Foreign Minister Receives Iranian Official

JN252142 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Damascus — Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received Hoseyn Sheykh Ol-Eslam, Iranian assistant foreign minister, this evening. The Iranian ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. The talks centered on the current situation in the region and relations between the two countries.

Press on UK-Oman Maneuvers; 'Capitulationists'

JN260750 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Confrontation of the Imperialist Onslaught Is a Pan-Arab Responsibility," the newspaper *Al-Thawrah* says: It is not a coincidence that the imperialist-Zionist campaign of threats and pressures against Syria escalates at this particular time. It is also not a coincidence that this campaign is accompanied by hostile U.S.-Israeli-British military moves. While the U.S. 6th Fleet is deploying in the eastern Mediterranean, the British forces begin very important maneuvers in Oman under the name "Swift Sword" that are to train these forces on rapid deployment in the Gulf region. All this coincides with agressive Israeli concentrations in southern Lebanon.

Observers will not find it difficult to link all these developments and realize the comprehensiveness of the imperialist-Zionist onslaught against the Arab region, and the serious threat it poses to the Arab nation's security. This onslaught undermines the region's security and constitutes a threat to all Arabs, because through this escalation, the imperialist-Zionist forces seek to tighten their control of the region and to impose the capitulatory plans which were defeated in the past.

Concluding, the newspaper stresses that while confronting the imperialist-Zionist campaigns and schemes, Syria realizes that it is defending the central case of the Arab struggle and the entire pan-Arab existence. Moreover, Syria is fully aware that the objective of all these campaigns and hostile onslaughts is to undermine its militant national and pan-Arab stands and affect its steadfastness. Syria is determined to adhere to its firm and principled policy and to continue its pan-Arab role in strengthening the course of resistance and steadfastness and providing all the available national and pan- Arab resources to deter the hostile schemes and onslaught, liberate the land, restore rights, and to impose a just peace which will put an end to the aggression and imperialist-Zionist hegemony in the region.

Under the headline "The Capitulationists and the Premeditated Role," the newspaper *Tishrin* says: After developments in our region have clearly revealed the true U.S.-Israeli role in fragmenting the Arab situation and in striking at every attempt to achieve solidarity and to mobilize all potential against our historic enemy which is represented by Israel and Zionism, Arab capitulationists insist on shuffling cards, distorting values and principles, and placing obstacles before achieving unity of the Arab nationalist forces and the uprising of the course of liberation. In their statements, they criticize the lack of U.S. credibility while at the same time they open their land, air space, and coasts to the U.S. fleets, conduct joint maneuvers with them, and allow the U.S. monopolies to control Arab wealth and resources. These capitulationists claim that they are concerned about the Palestinian people's rights while enemy delegations arrive in their capitals and while agreeing with the enemy that a solution to the Palestine question mainly begins with recongizing Israel.

Concluding, *Tishrin* says: Sitting on the fence will be to no avail. Our masses know the true strugglers and the capitulationists. The fact is that the strugglers and honest men are those that lead the struggle against imperialism and Zionism, and those who seek crumbs have collapsed and their acrobatics will not help restore the Arab nation's confidence in them.

Reaction to Meese Report on Involvement in Iran Deal

Foreign Ministry 'Concern'

TA251953 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1930 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Here is a first reaction from Jerusalem to the comments made by U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese regarding Israeli involvement in weapons sales to Iran: The Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem is following with concern the reports coming from the United States on the issue of weapons supplied to Iran. A senior official in the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem told our political correspondent this evening that Israeli representatives in the United States were given directives to carefully maintain the information line according to which Israel is not involved in this affair. The senior official stressed that recently many countries in the world, including the Soviet Union, Germany, Italy, France and Saudi Arabia, have started to establish commercial ties with Khomeyni's regime in Iran, and consequently there was logic in the United States' attempt to renew its ties with Iran.

Shamir-Peres-Rabin Statement

TA252317 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2300 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Israel has reacted this evening to the attempt to apportion to it responsibility for the weapons deal with Iran. Following the consultation between the prime minister, foreign minister, and defense minister the following statement was published in Jerusalem: Israel has helped in transferring defensive weapons and spare parts from the United States to Iran at the request of the United States. The payment was conveyed by an Iranian representative to a bank in Switzerland, according to the orders of the American representatives, without passing through Israel. The statement goes on to say that Israel is surprised by the mention of the Nicaraguan contras. Israel has nothing to do with this issue, and Israel knows nothing about it, and it goes without saying that Israel would not agree to serve as a funnel of this sort. Our political correspondent adds that despite the fact that the consultation is over the participants remain in the Prime Minister's Office.

Information Campaign Launched

TA260817 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 26 Nov p 1

[Report by the political correspondent in Jerusalem]

[Excerpt] In view of Attorney General Edwin Meese's announcement on Israel's role in the sale of weapons to Iran, Israeli representatives in the United States were given instructions yesterday on how to explain Israel's policy on the affair.

The Israeli representatives will explain that a host of countries, led by the Soviet Union, have resumed commercial and economic ties with Iran to prepare for "the world of tomorrow" in Iran upon Khomeyni's demise. As a country that has to safeguard its interests in the region, Israel cannot stand idly by and do nothing about the phenomenon. [passage omitted]

Knesset Transfers Motions

TA261315 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] The Knesset has transferred all the motions on the deal with Iran to its Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, except for HADASH [Democratic Front for Peace and Equality] Knesset Member [MK] Me'ir Wilner's motion, which was struck off the agenda. Summing up the debate, Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said that while prime minister, he acted in connection with the Iran deal according to the sincere wishes of the entire Knesset, as did then Vice Prime Minister Shamir and Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin. The goal was not to trade in weapons; rather, this was seen as a moral deed: helping save lives under difficult circumstances. The problem of the weapons trade cropped up only as a technicality involved in providing this assistance.

As for the Nicaraguan contras, the vice prime minister said that we had no part in this affair, and Israel made absolutely no financial profit from it. According to Mr Peres, the whole affair is a U.S. matter, which also explains why there was no need to report on this to a subcommittee of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

This was preceded by a vociferous and prolonged debate in which opposition and coalition MK's attacked the government for its involvement in the Iran affair.

Investigation Too 'Hasty'

TA260946 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 26 Nov 86 p 5

[Report from Washington by 'Ofra Yeshu'a-Iyth]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Attorney General Edwin Meese's announcement caught Jerusalem by complete surprise and gave room to puzzlement about his motives.

Officials in Jerusalem have criticized the "hasty investigation" carried out by Meese and said that the unfounded accusations against Israel resulted from the speed with which the investigation was handled. [passage omitted]

Iran Disclosures May Be 'Merely Tip of Iceberg'

TA260851 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 26 Nov 86 p 2

[Report by Ilan Kfir and Pe'erli Shahar]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] *Hadashot* has learned that the U.S. Administration plans to ask Israel for "the whole truth" on its involvement in the Iran affair. The U.S. President has instructed Attorney General Meese to carry out a comprehensive investigation of the Iranian connection, including Israel's role in it.

The United States may approach Israel within the next few days with an official request for explanations.

Senior political sources believe that the U.S. attorney general's astounding disclosures were made with President Reagan's consent. It seems that the President decided to reveal Israel's involvement against the background of the criticism he has been facing from senior Administration officials, Congress, and the U.S. public for not telling the whole truth on the affair.

The assessment was voiced in Jerusalem last night that the revelations made in Washington yesterday are merely the tip of the iceberg, that the Congressional hearing will reveal new and amazing pieces of information every day, and that those might embarrass many members of the U.S. Administration and the Israeli Government. [passage omitted]

Shultz Unaware of 'Specifics' of Arms Deal

TA260834 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew
26 Nov 86 p 3

[Report by Ilan Kfir]

[Text] Jerusalem fears that National Security Adviser John Poindexter's resignation and the dismissal of Oliver North are harbingers of a process of firing people involved with the Iranian arms deal.

Jerusalem sources expressed the fear last night that Secretary of State George Shultz, who has recently undercut President Reagan, might resign in view of the mounting political maelstrom in the United States.

Shultz claims that the contacts between members of the National Security Council and top Israeli Government officials on the Iranian arms deal were carried out behind his back and without his knowledge or approval.

Israeli sources maintain that Shultz was generally in the know, but was unaware of all the specifics.

Shamir Rejects Blame in Iran Arms Supply

TA252012 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Moti 'Eden "in Bet She'an today"; videorecorded]

[Text][Shamir] It is a usual thing that people want to blame Israel for various things; I do not think that this is true in this particular case. There is exaggeration here on the part of pessimists. Generally speaking it should be understood that countries that produce weapons must also export them, otherwise they will not be able to maintain the weapons industry. These countries almost never publish anything about their weapons exports. This is the usual practice everywhere, because there is competition, there are many factors and considerations. Israel, which must participate in this race, cannot be an exception, and therefore we do not speak very much about this issue.

['Eden] Nevertheless sir, 7 years of selling weapons to Iran, a country that has very sensitive relations with Israel and the United States — this is not a simple matter.

[Shamir] Nothing is simple, and I have not spoken of 7 years. I can only say that it is not our policy to export weapons to Iran in particular. This is the rule, but sometimes there can be exceptions to the rule. However, as I said, I do not think we should talk about this.

['Eden] Even in this case, when there is a storm in the United States and the administration is accused, Reagan is accused, and perhaps even Israel will be accused shortly?

[Shamir] I do not think that there are grounds to accuse Israel. Israel is acting to defend itself. Storms rise and subside.

['Eden] Mr Prime Minister, do you think that the secret ties between Israel with Khomeyni's Iran helped the United States in its policy in the Middle East?

[Shamir] There are no secret Israeli ties with Khomeyni's Iran, period.

Shamir Response to Meese Statement 'Dishonorable'

TA261228 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew
26 Nov 86 p 2

[Editorial: "Whose Leg Is He Trying To Pull?"]

[Text] Against the current turmoil in the United States over Israeli involvement in Iran, Yitzhaq Shamir appears undaunted, like a rock: "Israel is being libeled," he says. "This is all the fruit of exaggerations by the prophets of doom."

The prime minister could not have given a more inappropriate or dishonorable response. Who will take him seriously now?

Since Israel has developed its dependence on the United States to the point of absolute obsession, it would be ridiculous to maintain this is "an internal U.S. affair."

The questions are sure to come. Congress will ask, as will the Senate and the U.S. public. Mr Shamir's replies may satisfy the Israel Television correspondent, but there is not a chance in a lifetime that they will be acceptable to serious people in Israel or abroad.

Each day that passes without a substantive Israeli Government address to the issue is detrimental to our status. Burying one's head in the sand is, in this case, foolish and unnecessary.

President's Office Clarifies Herzog Visit to FRG

TA251150 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] The President's Office a few minutes ago put out a statement of clarification on the president's visit to West Germany. The statement notes that the decision to approve the visit was taken unanimously by the Cabinet. The original invitation was received from Dr Von Weiszacker when he was in Israel last year, and the matter had then been referred to the government for approval. The statement also says that President Herzog, who fought the Nazis and took an active part in the overthrow of Nazi Germany and the freeing of those Jews still in captivity, intends that the visit should have a symbolic character of remembrance. The president believes that the visit can strengthen consciousness of the Holocaust, which he feels has diminished in recent years.

FRG Denies Reports on Visit

TA251519 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1300 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] The FRG Foreign Ministry wants to find out who published the report on President Herzog's visit to that country in 5 months. Our correspondent in Bonn Yisra'el Segal reports that the Foreign Ministry there denies that a timetable for the visit has already been worked out. The sources added that not even a single working session has been held on the planned visit. The German media has reported extensively on the criticism of the visit voiced in Israel. The president's office this afternoon explained that the Cabinet plenum unanimously approved Herzog's visit to the FRG.

Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said he favors the visit by President Herzog to the FRG. He believes another Germany exists, and Israel is striving to create a fabric of relations that would not only reflect the past, but would also project into the future. He was speaking to our correspondent Bassam Jabir during a visit to Ulpan 'Aqiva in Netanya.

Bonn Officials Enraged

TA251957 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1705 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] President Hayim Herzog has expressed his wish to visit the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp rather than Dachau when he visits the FRG soon. President Herzog was a British soldier and participated in the liberation of that concentration camp during the final days of World War II. No official reaction could be obtained today from the [FRG] Foreign Ministry to the criticism voiced about the planned visit, but, privately, Foreign Ministry officials expressed furor and amazement. Yisra'el Segal reports from Bonn:

[Begin recording] Israeli Ambassador in Bonn Yitzhaq Ben-Ari arrived for a series of routine meetings at the FRG Foreign Ministry today, but the topic he was asked about was, naturally, President Hayim Herzog's upcoming visit and the parliamentary criticism voiced in Israel concerning that visit. The ambassador himself declined comment on the content of the talks held today, but sources in the FRG Foreign Ministry said that the Germans expressed more than simply discomfort and surprise both over the very disclosure of the visit, and over the bitter criticism that accompanied that revelation. Off the record, Foreign Ministry officials expressed rage: We are good enough for you when it comes to the assistance we must extend to you in the EEC, and why are we desirable in connection with joint industrial and military projects? In general, a senior official told us, why could Knesset Member Shevah Weiss visit Bonn less than a month ago as the guest of a German fund association with the Socialist Party, and yet the president of Israel cannot reciprocate President Richard von Weizsaecker's visit to Israel?

Again, let us note that these were unofficial comments. Officially the FRG presidential office has reported that President Hayim Herzog will indeed come for a visit although the specifics of his timetable have not yet been worked out. Meanwhile, the radio newscasts open with quotations from Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres, who justified the visit as part of the fabric of normal relations between two friendly nations. [end recording]

Our correspondent recalls that the Israeli ambassador to Bonn, Yitzhaq Ben-Ari, today signed the official document on the annual German loan of 140 million DM to Israel.

Rabin Visit to FRG Caps 'Expansive' Military Ties

TA260629 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0505 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] In addition to President Herzog's planned visit to the FRG, another visit is also scheduled to take place; Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin will probably make an official visit there in the spring. An understanding in principle on this was reached between the Israel and German Defense Ministries, although the precise date for the visit has not yet been set. Yisra'el Segal reports from Bonn:

[Begin recording] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's scheduled visit to the FRG next year comes after a very fruitful period of bilateral military ties. Last year, most of the figures on the German and on the Israeli side held visits — some of which were public and others top secret — in Bonn and Jerusalem. These visits served to bolster the expansive fabric of relations between the two countries on the most senior as well as on the intermediary and low levels. Many delegations visit, study, and exchange professional know-how. The fact that the Defense Ministry has recently decided to upgrade the military attache's office in Bonn and turn it into a Defense Ministry mission also proves that the military ties are taking a positive turn and are developing.

Some military observers in Bonn, particularly on the German side, are saying that the FRG has assumed the role held by France in the late 1950's vis-a-vis Israel and its relations with Europe. The military industry has found new avenues here and deals are signed daily. This is the background against which Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's visit next year should be viewed. [end recording]

Press on Nature of Herzog Visit to FRG

TA260730 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0430 GMT 26 Nov 86

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Text] *Davar* says that President Herzog, who described his planned visit to the FRG as a journey of remembrance, should be believed and his visit, it should be hoped, will not only be a facet of the Israeli realpolitik warranted by our interests — which has been the guideline for all the past governments in Israel — but will also be an educational tour kindling remembrance and the lessons that should be drawn therefrom. Indeed, the spirit of the new nationalism that can be discerned in the FRG these days, including the tendency to whitewash the uniqueness of the Jewish extermination and to equate it with other crimes, should not be overlooked. This inclination is manifest in the major dispute currently dividing German historians, which has been exploited by some conservative politicians. The Israeli president's upcoming visit to Bonn and its concentration camp tour could serve as an appropriate opportunity to fight these undesirable trends.

'Al Hamishmar writes that the president must at least demonstrate sensitivity toward the sentiments of many Israeli people for whom the mere thought of such a visit triggers the feelings of humiliation and deep hurt. The president has a greater obligation toward that public than toward the German people and their president, who was gracious enough to visit us. According to our understanding, the paper adds, the German president did us no favor by visiting us; on the contrary, he mut be grateful to us for agreeing to host him. The newspaper suggests that the president immediately announce a postponement of the visit. The president does not deal with day-to-day politics, and his visit carries no practical significance beyond presenting a symbolic act of a final reconciliation with the FRG, which is premature in this generation's times. If the president has a message to convey to the German people, he can voice it from Jerusalem, but not on German soil on which these very days the fuehrer's image is being revamped and history is being rewritten to the point of minimizing or even denying the holocaust altogether. It should be hoped that the president will not cross the line drawn at forgiveness, whose time has not yet come.

Hatzofe says that it is difficult to differentiate between the maintenance of proper ties with the FRG and the presidential visit to that country. Once Israel decided to have relations with the FRG, and as part of that hosted its leaders — the president, the chancellor, and others — it made it difficult to explain the opposition to the reciprocal gesture of the Israeli president's trip to the FRG. Naturally, care should be taken to ensure that each of these visits honors the aspect of remembrance so as to recall the events of the past and to make sure that they are not forgotten now or in the future. It should be assumed that if the president indeed visits the FRG, the organizers of the trip will be sure to observe this rule, particularly now, following the president's declaration that he regards the visit to the FRG as a journey of remembrance. At any rate, this is how we should regard that tour.

Shahal: Jerusalem Committed to Conference

TA251316 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1243 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Energy Minister Moshe Shahal, who is currently on an official visit to Egypt, has informed President Mubarak that Israel's commitment to join an international peace conference, as pledged by former Prime Minister Shim'on Peres during his meeting with Mubarak, is still valid, and this position is unchanged. Minister Shahal told reporters after his meeting with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali that he had been empowered by Foreign Minister Peres to transmit a message in this vein to President Mubarak.

A communique issued by the Egyptian Foreign Ministry after the meeting between Shahal and the Egyptian minister stated that Ghali told Shahal that no progress will be made in bilateral relations without progress toward the solution of the Palestinian problem and greater possibilities for the Palestinians to implement their legitimate rights.

Shamir Questions Message

TA260846 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew
26 Nov 86 p 5

[Report by Ilan Kfir]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir may seek clarifications from Energy Minister Moshe Shahal on the content of the message he relayed to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. According to that message, the Israeli Government is committed to the idea of an international conference. *Hadashot* has learned that the message was not coordinated with Shamir. [passage omitted]

Brings Message Home

TA260530 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Minister of Energy Moshe Shahal says that Egyptian President Husni Mubarak raised the subject of the Iran arms deals in talks between the two in Cairo. The minister would not reveal the contents of Mubarak's comments.

Minister Shahal returned last night from his trip to Egypt with messages from Mubarak for Prime Minister Shamir and Foreign Minister Peres. Sabra Chartrand reports:

Energy Minister Shahal said that the U.S. arms deal with Iran and alleged Israeli involvement was not the central issue in his hour-long talk with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. Mubarak did raise the subject, Shahal said, but his remarks were neither negative nor positive.

[Begin Shahal recording] Well, it was impossible not to mention a very concrete subject like this one. Of course it was mentioned, but the talks were in a cordial, friendly way. It was a conversation more than anything else that I can describe. [end recording]

Shahal carried a written message from Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and a verbal message from Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres to the Egyptian president. He did not disclose the nature of those dispatches, nor would he reveal the content of President Mubarak's reply.

While in Egypt, Shahal also met with the vice prime minister, the energy minister, and the minister of oil. He said discussions there revolved around cooperation between Israel and Egypt in the field of solar energy and electricity. Shahal invited the Egyptian minister of energy to visit Israel and said the invitation was accepted. Shahal also reported that a delegation of Egyptian energy experts will visit Israel next February.

Demjanjuk Pleads Not Guilty as Trial Opens

TA260824 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] During the first session in the hearing of his case, John Ivan Demjanjuk pleaded not guilty to the counts he was charged with. The session in the Jerusalem District Court ended approximately 30 minutes ago. Our correspondent Gil'ad Sher reports that replying to a question by court president Judge Dov Levin, the respondent responded in Ukrainian: I am not Ivan the Terrible. They want to try me to hang me. In the course of the hearing, Demjanjuk appeared distraught and was even observed weeping for a few minutes. His attorney claimed that Demjanjuk was hurt while driving in the bulletproof car that transported him from the prison to the courtroom. The judges decided that the counselor, Mark O'Connor, would be permitted to make an opening statement and, if he should so desire, would also be allowed to present an alibi when the trial resumes in mid-January in the Jerusalem Convention Hall.

No Israeli lawyer jointed the U.S. counselor for the defense in today's session, but the courtroom was packed, mainly with reporters from Israel and abroad and senior representatives of the Justice Ministry.

ALGERIA

PDRY's Al-'Attas Interviewed on Talks in Algiers

LD252314 Algiers APS in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Algiers, 25 Nov (APS) — PDRY President Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, who is visiting Algeria at the moment, expressed happiness at meeting Chadli Bendjedid, president and party secretary general. He explained that the fraternal relations between the PDRY and Algeria are deep-rooted and are characterized by the principled spirit of struggle which embodies the Algerian and the Yemeni revolutions' adherence to common militant principles and traditions.

In an interview published today in *Al-Sh'ab*, he added that our visit to Algeria comes as an embodiment of our party's and revolution's line, which aims to continue the deepening and consolidation of these relations, a matter which serves our common objectives and interests. He explained that his talks with Algerian officials will contribute to consolidating these relations at all levels and dealing with the current Arab and international developments and coordinating attitudes toward them.

President al-'Attas stressed the importance of pursuing a unified Arab policy toward the open imperialist challenges which threaten the supreme interests of the Arab peoples. He explained that lately there has been a dangerous escalation of imperialist challenges through Israel's persistence in shelling a number of Arab cities, the U.S. staging of a direct aggression against Libya, and the intensification of threats against Syria. He confirmed that those challenges strive to weaken the Arab national liberation movement and bring colonialist domination back to the Arab region.

Concerning the efforts to clarify the Arab atmosphere in preparation for convening an Arab summit, the Yemeni president confirmed his support for all means and efforts that could lead to consolidating the effectiveness of Arab struggle against Zionism and the realization of Arab objectives, foremost the Palestinian people's right to return to their homeland and to self-determination and the preparation for an Arab summit that will contribute to overcoming the weakness and divisive factors in the Arab arena.

PDRY Ministers Hold Talks With Counterparts

LD252321 Algiers Domestic Service in French
1830 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] It should be noted that the ministers accompanying the Yemeni head of state held separate talks with their Algerian counterparts. General (Kamal Abderrahim), deputy chief of General Staff of the Algerian People's Army received Colonel (Ait Haytham Qasim), deputy chief of General Staff. Their talks concerned matters of common interest.

For his part, Taleb Ibrahimi received his Yemeni counterpart, 'Abd al-Aziz al-Dali. Special attention was paid to efforts under way to convene the ordinary Arab summit.

The ministers of finance and information also held separate talks with their Yemeni counterparts.

Burkinabe Minister, Delegation Depart Algiers

LD252023 Algiers APS in English 1128 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Algiers, 25 Nov 86 (APS) — A Burkinabe delegation led by Captain Henri Zongo, member of the Executive Secretariat of the Political Bureau and of the National Council of the Revolution and minister of economic promotion of the Republic of Burkina Faso left Algiers yesterday.

The Burkinabe delegation handed over a message from Captain Thomas Sankara to President Chadli. On another hand the delegation was received in the National Defense Ministry.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi on Reagan's Role in Iran Affair

LD261348 Hamburg DPA in German 1137 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Tripoli/Hamburg, 26 Nov (DPA) — Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi does not rule out an improvement in relations with the United States after Ronald Reagan's departure as President. In an interview with the weekly paper *Die Zeit*, however, he made any improvement in Libyan-U.S. relations conditional on the proviso that no Jews should hold influential office in the National Security Council or in the State Department.

The role of the U.S. President in the Iranian affair was "not to the credit of any normal human being, let alone a statesman. His role is lousy," Al-Qadhdhafi said.

With regard to the bomb attack on the "La Belle" discotheque in West Berlin, he said his country had nothing to do with it. "I have no knowledge about who carried out an attack on whom here. Perhaps Germans did it — against American soldiers, who are seen as occupiers in Germany. I regard it as resistance by the people to the occupation." Al-Qadhdhafi stressed that Libya had nothing to do with the terrorist attacks either in Rome, Vienna, or Berlin.

The Libyan leader, who describes himself as a "prophet of peace and freedom," regards an oil price of "not less than $30" as appropriate. Libya would be willing to shut down its oil production until the price of oil reaches an appropriate level again. "Libya can halt oil production for years — for a number of years," Al-Qadhdhafi said.

Al-Qadhdhafi described Libya's relations with the Warsaw Pact as "good." Asked whether Tripoli is considering joining the Warsaw Pact, Al-Qadhdhafi said: "We are thinking about it."

The interview, which will appear in the next issue of *Die Zeit*, was pre-released to DPA.

Reagan 'Confused, Perturbed' at News Conference

NC260802 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic
0600 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Reagan, the mad dog of Israel, has admitted that his administration has collapsed. He said that U.S. National Security Adviser John Poindexter has resigned. In a short statement he read in the news conference hall of the Black House last night, he announced that Oliver North, an official on whom the mad dog of Israel had relied, has also resigned.

Press and media representatives observed that the mad dog of Israel appeared to be confused and perturbed as he read his statement. The mad dog of Israel left the hall after completing the statement, giving journalists no chance to question him. He left U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese to speak to the journalists.

UN Delegate on 'Threat' of U.S. Fleets, Bases

NC260800 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic
0600 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] A member of the Libyan Arab delegation to the 41st session of the UN General Assembly has emphasized that the continued presence of the imperialist U.S. fleets in the Mediterranean constitutes a constant threat to peace and security in the Mediterranean and neighboring regions. He noted that these terrorist fleets are the source of the threats and provocations to which the region's nations are subjected.

In his speech to a committee that was discussing several issues yesterday, including that of promoting security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region, the member of the Libyan Arab delegation noted that the Gulf of Sirte is an indivisible part of the Great Jamahiriyah's territory and waters. He said that any attempt to prevent the Great Jamahiriyah's exercise of sovereignty over this gulf constitutes a direct violation of the Libyan people's freedom and interference in their country's internal affairs. This endangers peace and security in this region and the world.

The member of the Libyan Arab delegation called on the states in the Mediterranean region that host U.S. military bases to expel these bases and to stop providing military facilities to U.S. imperialism.

Stand on U.S. Raid Discussed With Foreign Envoys

LD252215 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland
in Arabic 2115 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison met today with ambassadors and heads of diplomatic delegations accredited to the Great Jamahiriyah whose countries supported the resolution of the international community which condemned the failed, barbarous U.S.-NATO aggression against the people of the Great Jamahiriyah. The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison expressed the gratitude and appreciation of the people of the Great Jamahiriyah for the brave and principled stance adopted by their countries in condemning this barbarous aggression. The committee stressed that this resolution is a victory for the small, struggling peoples and a slap in the face of American imperialism and its allies.

The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison also summoned the heads of diplomatic delegations of some countries which oppose the UN General Assembly resolution condemning the barbarous U.S.-NATO aggression against the people of the Great Jamahiriyah. The committee stressed to them that this stance by their governments is considered as submission to American hegemony and does not indicate independence in the positions of their countries. The committee told these ambassadors that the Great Jamahiriyah is very seriously considering their countries' opposition to the international community's resolution condemning the barbarous American aggression against the Libyan Arab people, and it will take this opposition into consideration when assessing the relations of the Great Jamahiriyah with these countries.

PFLP's Habash Asks Al-Qadhdhafi To 'Intervene'

LD252230 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland
in Arabic 2115 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution received a message from George Habash, PFLP Central Committee secretary general, which said:

The Shi'ite despair gangs have taken their unjust battle to Beirut camps, the Burj al-Barajnah camp in particular. There they have been perpetrating savage massacres against our people, after having failed to achieve their objectives of disarming our brothers in the camp and liquidating the Palestinian national existence in the south. They have been stopping the delivery of medical and other supplies to the camp with the aim of bringing the camp defenders to their knees.

We appeal to you to intervene quickly and immediately in your capacity as the commander in chief of the pan-Arab command of Arab revolutionary forces in order to put pressure to stop the unjust war against our people's camps, so that they can continue their struggle and fight against the Zionist enemy, which is craving the Arab homeland as a whole. The halt of this war would mean having the freedom to concentrate on consolidating Palestinian, Lebanese, and Syrian steadfastness, which has been fractured due to this destructive war.

At the end of his message to the brother leader of the revolution, Habash said: May God support you for the benefit of our nation's just national causes and for closing ranks in order to face the fierce imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary attack, to which we are all being subjected. Long life as a fortress to Arabism!

Algerian Military Delegation Arrives on Visit

LD260016 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland
in Arabic 2115 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] An Algerian military delegation headed by Colonel (?Mohamed Taeb Daraj) this evening arrived in Tripoli on a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah, within the framework of the existing fraternal cooperation relations between the two fraternal countries.

CSSR Official Reaffirms Support for Tripoli

LD252141 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1455 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Tripoli, 25 Nov (JANA) — CSSR Deputy Education Minister Vladimir Cerevka has reiterated his country's firm stance in support of the people of the Great Jamahiriyah in its confrontation with imperialist schemes. In a statement to a JANA correspondent he added that all the CSSR's people, the government, and material resources are at the service of the people of the Great Jamahiriyah. We are by the side of the people of the Great Jamahiriyah against U.S. imperialist and colonialist arrogance, he asserted. Vladimir Cerevka stressed the deepness of the existing relations of cooperation between the two friendly countries, Libya and Czechoslovakia.

He said: My visit will lay the cornerstone for the consolidation of bilateral coooperation between the two countries in the fields of information and culture as well as all other spheres of cooperation, namely theater, equestrian pursuits, exchange of radio programs, and cooperation between the two countries' news agencies in the spheres of news and technical expertise. He pointed out that the Libyan cultural week will soon be held in Prague; more cultural exhibitions, epitomizing the achievements of the Libyan and the Czechoslovak peoples in the field of information, will also follow.

MOROCCO

King Hassan Receives Turkish Delegation

LD252259 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II, may God grant him victory, accompanied by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Sidi Mohamed, received at the royal court in Rabat this afternoon Necmettin Karaduman, speaker of the Turkish Great Assembly, accompanied by five members of the Turkish Assembly, his advisers, and the Turkish ambassador in Rabat.

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Azzedine Laraki; House of Representatives Speaker Ahmed Osman; and Ahmed Guedira, his majesty's adviser.

Danish Foreign Minister Arrives on Visit

LD260200 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 0300 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Danish Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen arrived this evening in Morocco for an official visit at the invitation of Abdellatif Filali, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation.

At Rabat Sale airport, the Danish foreign minister made a statement in which he pointed out that the visit will be an opportunity for talks with Moroccan officials on many important issues, the foremost of which are relations between Morocco and the EEC and the situation in the Mediterranean. He stressed the need to consolidate economic cooperation between Denmark and Morocco and explained in this context that an important delegation of businessmen and industrialists is accompanying him. He added that he will discuss with Moroccan officials the means for the strengthening of cooperation between the two countries in the economic field.

He was welcomed on arrival by Foreign Minister Filali, the Danish ambassador to Morocco, and a number of personalities.

SUDAN

Prime Minister Meets Southern Politicians

JN252016 Khartoum SUNA in English 1745 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Khartoum, Nov. 25 (SUNA) — Premier al-Sadiq al-Mahdi reaffirmed that the government is currently preparing for holding the proposed constitutional conference which will discuss Sudan major problems, among them the southern question.

Al-Mahdi, who conferred here today with the southern politicians reiterated his government's refusal to negotiate with the rebel forces of Col. John Garang unless they reject terrorism and expressed their readiness for dialogue.

The prime minister has briefed the southern politicians on reasons and the political causes that led to the forming of a civilian and political administration in the south. The meeting has reviewed the proposed constitutional amendments and agreed to form a coordination committee from the southern political parties and the Sudanese National Party before submitting them to the Constituent Assembly.

Members of the Constituent Assembly Joseph Okello and Alyaba James told reporters following the meeting that they have taken a unified stance regarding the constitutional amendments, especially the article of legislation sources. On the other hand, the Sudanese African Congress Party has rejected the establishing of a coordination council and called for the return of the High Executive Council for the Southern Sudan. Southern deputies in the Constituent Assembly, and Attorney General 'Abd al-Mahmud al-Haj have attended the meeting.

Al-Mahdi Receives Egyptian Party Official

JN251859 Khartoum SUNA in English 1743 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Khartoum, Nov 25 (SUNA) — Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi reviewed here today with deputy secretary general of the Egyptian ruling party, the Democratic National Party Dr. Hilmi al-Hadid the bilateral relations and the means of boosting them further.

On the other hand, Dr al-Hadidi who had arrived here yesterday on a week-long official visit will call tomorrow on the chairman and the members of the State Council.

Council Member on Cairo Talks, Southern 'Mutiny'

PM251613 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 23 Nov 86 p 3

[Interview with State Council Member Muhammad al-Hasan 'Abdallah Yasin by Mahmud Sadiq in Cairo; date not given]

[Excerpts][Sadiq] In the light of the recent talks, what is the state of Egyptian-Sudanese relations and what future is there for these relations?

[Yasin] Egyptian-Sudanese relations have passed through a critical stage, and the officials in both countries perhaps realized that the summer cloud must be dispelled. This visit marks the beginning of the end of the current estrangement. I believe it has been a successful visit, and we have reached the conviction that we should be together in all steps. [passage omitted]

[Sadiq] Are the results of negotiations held by a member of the Sudanese State Council in Cairo binding on Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's government?

[Yasin] They are definitely not binding, of course, but I should point out that before coming here we held discussions and contacts with the Sudanese prime minister and we agreed on the broad lines for these negotiations.

[Sadiq] It has been said more than once that Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi would visit Cairo but each time the visit was postponed. It has been claimed that political differences still exist. When will the prime minister visit Egypt?

[Yasin] There may still be some political differences but they are not the main reason for the postponement of the visit. Sudan's circumstances and priorities were behind the repeated postponement of the visit, but I wish to confirm that after the exchange of ministers' visits Al-Mahdi will visit Egypt soon. [passage omitted]

[Sadiq] Sudanese officials have visited Cairo before but there was no marked improvement in relations. Have all the problems causing tension between the two countries been discussed during this visit?

[Yasin] I believe so. We discussed all aspects of the differences, especially the trade agreement, which was a main cause of the differences and which is a tangible matter to the people of both countries. Agreement has almost been reached on all pending questions related to it. Sudan's view regarding the trade agreement is that fraternal Egypt is in debt [to Sudan] and the Sudanese finance minister believes that these debts should be settled quickly. Maybe the Egyptian brothers were of the opinion that the debts could be settled in a different way. There was disagreement but it has been overcome and President Mubarak has personally ordered that all problems related to the trade agreement be solved.

[Sadiq] What is the size of these debts?

[Yasin] One hundred and twenty million dollars. [passage omitted]

[Sadiq] Have Egyptian-Sudanese relations been affected by Sudanese-Libyan relations?

[Yasin] Sudan has relations with numerous neighboring countries, including Egypt and Libya. We treat each country according to the way it treats us, and we welcome all provided they do not undermine our sovereignty and freedom. No Egyptian official has ever asked that we should have strained relations with Libya; on the contrary, they want Sudanese-Libyan relations to be just as good as Sudanese-Egyptian relations.

[Sadiq] But does Libya not want you to have a certain type of relationship with Egypt as a condition for improving relations with you?

[Yasin] We do not accept conditions from any state. That is why we would not hear of such a thing, and nobody can make such demands on us.

[Sadiq] In your view, is the problem of southern Sudan a factor of rapprochement or estrangement between Egypt and Sudan?

[Yasin] Egypt has nothing to do with the problem of southern Sudan. That is a case of a mutiny supported by the churches of Western states and by some communist states. Egypt has nothing to do with it. The mutiny is also backed by some neighboring states. Egypt is not one of them. It is quite distant from the battle, but it could help in solving the problem through its relations with other states. We would welcome that if it wished to mediate between us and Garang or the states which support him. It is welcome to do so.

[Sadiq] Has Egypt played such a mediating role?

[Yasin] So far I have no knowledge of any such development. It might have talked to some other states but it has not reached agreement on any specific point.

[Sadiq] Has Sudan sought military aid from Egypt?

[Yasin] Not at all. [passage omitted]

[Sadiq] What is the news of the mutiny and the situation in the south now?

[Yasin] The situation is moving from good to better, and I want to emphasize that the morale of the Sudanese Army is at its highest in 16 years. Almost all airports have now been reopened to international aviation, and all the big towns are in the hands of the Sudanese forces and under the control of the civilian government. I also want to confirm that the incident of the downed plane will not be repeated. The government has taken all precautions to ensure freedom of aviation and of the citizens. [passage omitted)

Further Remarks by Yasin

JN251851 Khartoum SUNA in English 1741 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Khartoum, Nov 25 (SUNA) — An ambitious formula on integration between Sudan and Egypt will be drawn in the near future, member of the State Council Muhammad al-Hasan 'Abdallah Yasin said.

On his recent visit to Egypt Yasin said that Egyptian President Husni Mubarak has expressed desire to exert more efforts for securing the Nile basin region for the benefit of the Nile basin's peoples.

"I openly talked to the Egyptian officials on the tepidity of relations between the two countries and I found strong desire to put relations between the two countries in their proper historical framework," he said.

He also talked about his meeting with Egyptian Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi explaining that Sidqi had voiced strong desire to spare no efforts in strengthening ties between the two countries.

He added that Dr Sidqi has established a special bureau to follow up the Sudanese-Egyptian issues.

He went on to say that he had discussed with the Egyptian officials the trade agreement between the two countries pointing that it has been agreed on rising the rate of interest of account dollar in Egypt. [as received]

Existence of Chadian Military Camps Denied

JN251806 Khartoum SUNA in English 1738 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Khartoum, Nov 25 (SUNA) — Foreign Minister Sharif Zayn al-'Abidin al-Hindi has denied the existence of any military camps for any neighbouring country inside Sudan.

Answering questions by members of the Constituent Assembly today Al-Hindi denied any covert agreement between ousted president Numayri and Chadian President Hissein Habre whereby military training camps were established in Sudan. The Chadian civil war has caused disarray and inflitration through joint borders by those who wear the uniform of the Chadian troops without having identification documents that prove their affiliation of the Chadian Army, Al-Hindi said.

Joint patrols between the two countries had tried during the past years to put an end to armed looting but the attempts were failed due to the using of weapons by the gangs and their wearing the military uniform in addition to the military conflict in Chad, the minister explained. The Chadian Government, however has denied any connection of its troops with the looting acts, the minister said.

He added that during the visit paid recently by member of the State Council Dr al-Hasan Taj al-Din the Sudanese and Chadian Governments had admitted the impossibility of each government to make control over its borders for reasons related to acute shortage in equipment.

Army Kills 86 Rebels in Equatoria 'Last Week'

JN251718 Khartoum SUNA in English 1643 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Khartoum, Nov 24 (SUNA) — The Armed Forces have sustained heavy losses on the SPLA Sudan People's Liberation Army in a battle last week, leaving eighty-six rebels dead, several injured, and captured a number of arms and ammunitions, a spokesman for the Armed Forces said today.

The official spokesman pointed that the Army had attacked a rebel camp near Terakeka on the Jur River, in the west of Equatoria. The commander of the camp and three officers were also killed in the two-hour battle, he said, pointing that seven soldiers on the side of the Army "were martyred."

Quantities of rifles and machine guns, mainly Kalashnikov, have been seized, he said.

Meanwhile the military governor of Equatoria Gen. Peter Cirellio has issued a statement congratulating the Army and citizens of Equatoria for the defeat of "the so-called SPLA."

He revealed that the captured arms are imported from foreign countries and mainly Ethiopia.

SPLA Radio: Rebels Kill 22 at Garrison Near Tonj

EA252340 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in Bari 1120 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Tonj — SPLA fighters under the command of Lieutenant Colonel (Bona Abang Dhol), assisted by Captain (Albino Ater Rec), shot and killed many enemy soldiers who tried to come out of their besieged garrison to look for food at a place called (Kwanjok), 2 miles from Tonj. The enemy soldiers were forced to retreat to Tonj town, leaving behind 22 dead and 15 seriously wounded. [passage omitted]

DJIBOUTI

Defense Minister Sultan Dies After Illness

EA250032 Djibouti Domestic Service in Somali 1645 GMT 24 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Defense Minister Ibrahim Mohamed Sultan, who had recently been ill, passed away last night in Djibouti, may God rest his soul. Minister Sultan, who was 60, has been a member of the administration since 1978. The late minister was buried today at 1300. The burial was attended by President Hassan Gouled Aptidon, members of the administration and members of his family. [passage omitted]

President Receives YAR Military Delegation

EA250111 Djibouti Domestic Service in Somali 1645 GMT 24 Nov 86

[Text] Today the commander of the armed forces, General 'Ali (Mehidal Waiss) met a YAR military delegation led by Lieutenant Colonel Yahya Muhammad (al-Mukh al-Nabi), who is director of the planning office of the YAR Armed Forces. The delegation consists of six members. Shortly afterward President Hassan Gouled Aptidon received the delegation at his office. Also present were the YAR ambassador to Djibouti, Muhammad 'Abd al-Wasia Hamid, and Gen 'Ali (Mehidal Waiss).

ETHIOPIA

EPLF, ELF Leaders Praise Merger of Factions

EA252317 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Excerpt] The merger of the EPLF and the ELF Central Leadership took place at a colorful ceremony.

The historic ceremony last Saturday [22 November], conducted to unify the rearguard of our revolution, was addressed by Comrade Ramadan Mohammed Nur, secretary general of the EPLF, and Comrade Giorgis Tekle Mikael, chairman of the ELF Central Leadership.

Comrade Ramadan stressed that the unity of the two organizations is one of the greatest victories achieved in our 25-year revolutionary struggle. He confirmed that the merger has been conducted at a time when we are weakening the Dergue regime. Assessing the unity of the two organizations, Comrade Ramadan Mohammed Nur stressed that a united outlook will emanate from joint activity and the merger will be assured through mutual interests and not by force. Agreements which do not embrace Eritrea and the national spirit will end in failure. On the contrary, the unity of national democratic forces is inevitable, despite various obstacles and the time it has taken, Comrade Ramadan noted.

Comrade Giorgis, chairman of the ELF Central Leadership, for his part said that the measures taken to unify the two organizations signify that they are moving from one stage to another, thereby opening a new chapter. The democratic forces of the Eritrean revolution have made the genuine merger of the EPLF and the ELF Central Leadership possible, he added.

Comrade Giorgis also stressed that today the Eritrean people have consolidated their unity and equipped their fighters better than ever before. [passage omitted]

KENYA

DAILY NATION Views Barclays' Withdrawal From RSA

EA251428 Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 25 Nov 86 p 6

[Editorial: "What Barclays Pullout Portends"]

[Text] Like most of the other American and British companies which have pulled out of South Africa in recent weeks, Barclays Bank — a major British financial institution which announced its departure yesterday, does well not to indulge in high falutin moral phrases as its reason for doing so. It does not say that its withdrawal has been prompted by the suffering which the majority of South Africans — the blacks and the browns — have been undergoing through apartheid for many decades. There is no hint that the intense agony is what has finally touched the conscience of these nabobs. In fact, it says just the contrary. An executive of Barclays National Bank of South Africa told a press conference yesterday "Barclays are long-standing friends of (Apartheid) South Africa. They are not doing this (pulling out) to punish South Africa."

So what is the problem? "They are doing it because they are under political pressure, which is converting into financial pressure". But what form has this "political" pressure taken? The question was answered yesterday by a high powered spokesman for the parent company in London. A transnational news agency quoted him as saying: "... There were a number of people in Britain who had chosen not to bank with Barclays because of its South African connections". It quoted him as saying "loss of business because of this is minimal, but we have to bear in mind that there could be a similar loss of business in the USA".

The meaning of this "political" pressure is thus obvious. In the USA, as in Britain, the anti-apartheid lobby is gaining momentum every day and many influential bank customers — the likes of Edward Kennedy, Jesse Jackson and other benign liberals — may soon succeed in forcing a boycott of banks and other firms which persist in strengthening South Africa's political hand.

This is what Barclays means by "political" pressure. Said the London spokesman: "The lack of progress towards ending apartheid has itself had an impact on the South African economy (and this) has left us no option but to take into account the long-term interests of our shareholders".

For us, who have been campaigning against apartheid for all these years, this absence of moral qualm does not matter. It is enough that the Western companies which have always been apartheids real pillars are at last admitting what their home governments — in London, Washington and Bonn — continue to deny to this very day. It is that the really objective long-term interests of all foreign investors in South Africa lies in the immediate abolition of the political integument — apartheid — in which they are making their profits. For that political umbrella is too degrading and too costly to maintain, politically as well as militarily. It is that those who continue to support apartheid by their economic presence in South Africa are only serving extremely short-term interests, myopic interests which can only prolong the bloodshed as the people — now emboldened by protracted torture — seek to wrench themselves free and the diehard racists seek to prevent it by force.

Barclays departure means it is selling at 236,000,000 dollars the 40.4 per cent holding it has in Barclays Bank of South Africa to Anglo-American and other local consortiums. That is a large amount vis-a-vis Barclays total world assets now standing at 91 billion dollars. Despite claims to the contrary, this — the largest pull out so far — has caused deep political and economic embarrassment in Pretoria. And it continues to put paid to the claims by President Reagan, Premier Thatcher and Chancellor Kohl that sanctions cannot work. Let these leaders get out of the subterfuge and provide more cogent and less self-interested reason for their continued support for Pretoria.

SOMALIA

Foreign Ministry Delegation Departs for USSR

EA242331 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali
1115 GMT 24 Nov 86

[Text] A large delegation led by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Mohamed Ali Hamud, which includes Challe Ahmad Mohamed Qayleh, permanent secretary of the same ministry and other high-ranking officials from the Foreign Ministry, last night left Mogadishu airport for Moscow.

The minister told newsmen that they had been invited by the USSR. During their visit, they are expected to meet the Soviet leadership to discuss further strengthening relations between Somalia and the USSR. Challe Hamud and his delegation were seen off by government officials and the charge d'affaires of the Soviet Embassy in Mogadishu.

Radio Halgan Views 'Begging Mission' to USSR

EA252359 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali
to Somalia 1700 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Men from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the fascist regime of Siad Barre left yesterday on a begging mission to the Soviet Union in order to obtain arms and other military equipment to repress the struggling general public of Somalia.

This was preceded by the recent meeting in New York in October between the so-called foreign minister, Abdurahman Jama Barre, and the Soviet foreign minister, Eduard Shevardnadze. The two men discussed the political relations between the two countries and how to improve relations marred by the fascist regime of Mogadishu when it abrogated the treaty of friendship between the two countries in 1977.

Reports add that of late, the dictator has been dispatching envoys and delegations to the Soviet Government. Recently, the regime dispatched to the Soviet Union the deputy minister for the so-called Ministry of Youth and Sports with a special mission to strengthen its fascist dictatorial regime.

TANZANIA

Foreign Minister Reiterates Call for Sanctions

EA251227 Dar Es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili
0400 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Dar Es Salaam — Tanzania has repeated its call to the international community to continue supporting liberation efforts in southern Africa by imposing sanctions against the Boer regime. The call was made by the minister of foreign affairs, Ndugu Benjamin Mkapa, in a speech to mark liberation week at Dar Es Salaam University last night.

He said sanctions are the only way in which the regime can be compelled to dismantle apartheid and give independence to Namibia. He called on international organizations to participate fully in educating people on the effects of apartheid and the need for its elimination.

Ndugu Mkapa expressed Tanzania's gratitude to those countries that have agreed to impose sanctions against the oppressive regime.

ANGOLA

Savimbi Rhetoric Loses 'Arrogance' After Defeats

MB221704 Luanda Domestic Service in Portugese
1200 GMT 22 Nov 86

[ANGOP commentary: "A Sinking Terrorist"]

[Text] After the U.S. Administration's pledge to help UNITA with $15 million, the leader of the terrorist group in the pay of Pretoria began speaking with more exaggerated optimism about toppling the Angolan Government by force. From his statements in Washington, one might infer that Angola was for sale, and at a very cheap price. It is obvious that the South African agent forgot to tell his enthusiastic Washington friends that he did not have any power to negotiate on behalf of our country. He also forgot to mention that the bandits infiltrated into Angola, himself included, are daily punished by the Angolan people. The terrorist leader supported by the South African regime was full of energy in challenging everything and everybody. His latest statements show that the puppet does not understand some elementary realities.

A year after the U.S. promise, the South African agent's rhetoric toward the Angolan Government has lost some of its old arrogance. The development of the situation in our country has alerted him to the realities that he should have understood from the moment he decided to betray the Angolan people. He has suddenly understood that his own survival does not depend on himself. The heavy military defeats of the bands he leads under Pretoria's orders have deeply shaken the confidence of the South African agent, who has now chosen to link the development of strategies dictated by Botha and Reagan to tactical maneuvers that reveal his awareness about his own future. His boasting about his ability to topple the Angolan Government by force had now been replaced by a false language based on dialogue and national reconciliation. In this change, the agent of South African racism is unreservedly supported by the same media which had seen exceptional qualities in him. The same media which supported him passionately is now unconsciously comparing the South African terrorist organization to a ship about to sink. In speaking about dialogue with the legitimate Angolan Government, the agent of the South African terrorism was surely expecting to be perceived as a peacemaker by a cheering international public. But if this was his immediate goal, the puppet inadvertently made a big mistake. He used an elementary stratagem in an attempt to deceive the people's memory. Despite the failure of this old stratagem, the bandit in Pretoria's pay has repeated it continuously, which led him to make another monumental error by seeking to involve independent and sovereign governments in his desperate attempts to extricate himself from the muddle into which he has sunk. The South African agent is finally aware of his fate but, like a bird in a cage, he is seeking yet a way out.

Incorrect references to the Cape Verdian Government's willingness to serve as a broker in talks between himself and the Angolan authorities have been categorically denied by the Praia authorities. A communique from the Cape Verdian Government issued in Luanda says that there is no possibility of such brokerage because it is impossible for the Cape Verdian Government to place the legitimate Government of the People's Republic of Angola on the same level as the puppets who fight for interests alien to the Angolan people and are agents of international imperialism in its most heinous form: the odious apartheid regime. This was a monumental unmasking of his macabre intentions. The firm and unequivocal position of the brotherly Government of Cape Verde portrayed the South African puppet as an international liar.

Attempts to rehabilitate the South African terrorist organization have been in vain. Everything said on its behalf is being denied by reliable persons and organizations which have no ideological ties to Angolan authorities. The recent attitude of the European Parliament left the murderer and his backers in turmoil. The South African agent feels that his end is nearing. His desperate appeals for dialogue will not serve any purpose. Some naive people, however, will think differently. The appeal to dialogue is being launched in tandem with an offensive which aims at slandering the government of the People's Republic of Angola. The Portuguese press, in particular, is overdoing it and is unconsciously contributing to revealing the despair of the former PIDE [International Police for Defense of the State] collaborator. The South African agent can continue to claim that he will take the Luanda government to the negotiating table. He can resort to all kinds of intrigue. This will not change reality. The Angolan people see the lackey as a bloodthirsty terrorist and that is what counts.

Rebels Claim Capture of Village, Attack on Dam

AU251331 Paris AFP in English 1328 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Lisbon, Nov 25 (AFP) — The main Angolan rebel movement said Tuesday that its forces had overrun the northern Angolan town of Massango on November 16 and destroyed a hydro-electric dam in a separate attack the previous day in the central province of Huambo.

In a communique received here, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), which is backed by South Africa and the United States, said its guerrillas also attacked a government brigade near the Luamba river in Huambo. It said that 77 government soldiers were killed and nine captured in the three operations. UNITA losses were put at seven dead, 19 wounded and two missing in action.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Inquiry Group Hears Cockpit Recordings

MB251136 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
1100 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Officials from Mozambique, the Soviet Union, and South Africa who are part of the international commission of inquiry into causes of the crash of President Samora Machel's plane met in Switzerland yesterday.

After the meeting, the parties listened to the cockpit voice recorder, one of the plane's four flight recorders. The three sides and the International Civil Aviation Organization agreed in Maputo recently that the cockpit voice recorder should be examined in Zurich, Switzerland.

The delegations arrived in Zurich yesterday from different cities. There are no details about how yesterday's working session in Zurich went. A correspondent of the Maputo daily *Noticias* newspaper reports that all parties involved in the inquiry have agreed to maintain complete secrecy about any findings until the whole investigation has been completed.

Recording Reception 'Good'

MB260856 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] The review of the cockpit voice recorder of the Mozambican presidential plane which crashed in South Africa on 19 October begun in Zurich, Switzerland, last Monday, has already ended. Experts from Mozambique, the USSR, and South Africa comprising the international commission of inquiry listened to the original recording, and copies were distributed to each side yesterday.

According to a source from the commission cited by the correspondent of *Noticias*, the recording reception was good and no technical problems were observed. We were able to obtain all information contained in the plane's cockpit voice recorder, the source added, noting that the equipment used in the listening to the recording obtained from the USSR also corresponded to the necessary requirements. The three sides has already signed in Moscow at the weekend a protocol recognizing that the equipment to be used corresponded to the requirements and was adequate. During its work in Zurich, Switzerland, the commission also received some Swiss technical assistance.

Renamo Claims Killing 193 Troops, Zimbabweans

AU251854 Paris AFP in English 1845 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Lisbon, Nov 25 (AFP) — The rebel Mozambique National Resistance Movement said here Tuesday that its guerrillas had killed 127 government troops and 21 allied Zimbabwean soldiers in a week of fighting this month in three southern Mozambican provinces.

A statement issued by the rebel movement, also known as Renamo, added that its forces had again sabotaged the rail lines linking Zimbabwe to the Mozambican port of Beira and had attacked a train running from Maputo to South Africa. It said Renamo casualties during the November 11-19 fighting were nine dead and 35 wounded. Zimbabwe has an estimated 7,000 troops in Mozambique to help guard the Beira transport corridor.

Rebels Say Government Has Launched 'Major' Drive

AU260822 Paris AFP in English 0347 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Lisbon, Nov 26 (AFP) — Mozambique's South African-backed anti-government rebels said here Tuesday that Mozambican and Zimbabwean army troops had begun a major drive in the centre of the country to recapture several rebel-held villages along the Zambezi river. The rebel communique said planes, helicopters and paratroops were backing up regular ground troops, which were concentrated around Inhaminga, Chinde and Quelimane.

But, the rebels said, the villages targeted had already been abandoned by the rebels. The operation, "at the height of the rainy season, the best time for guerrilla activity, is evidence of the government's desperation," they added.

Refugees Fleeing Battles Suffering 'Misery'

MB251522 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 25 Nov 86

[AIM commentary by Gustavo Mavia: "On the Action of the Armed Bandits Coming in From Malawi"]

[Text] One of the great problems aggravating the drama of the hundreds of thousands of people displaced by the war of destabilization waged by Pretoria — through the armed bandits — against Mozambique is the lack of foodstuffs, shelter, and clothing.

To visit a center for the displaced in Mozambique is a depressing odyssey. It is to visit a large number of human beings who were suddenly lowered to the class of the poorest among the poor of this world, in other words to the most degrading misery. The drama facing these thousands of people, who are the victims of Pretoria's war, becomes all the more distressing because the Mozambique authorities, despite all their efforts, have to deal with countless problems, all of which are of a military and economic nature.

There are numerous groups, many of which include hundreds and sometimes even thousands of people, which were suddenly deprived of all that permittted them to enjoy a minimally acceptable way of life. Usually, when the armed bandits attack a hamlet or a village, the people flee because they already know that they are targets. Almost always, the only things these people manage to take with them when they flee are the clothes on their backs. Young children, who are unable to flee the areas under attack, are often caught. There are also instances of old people who cannot be carried by others and are purely and simply left to their own fate.

One of the principal objectives of armed bandit incursions against civilian targets is to take all the food and property from their victims and to destroy or set fire to their homes.

The fact that the victims of the armed bandits are unable to take their possessions with them forces them to start anew at their new location, as though life for them started the moment they arrived. This happens because all they had saved through work and sacrifices — sometimes over several years — stays in the hands of bandits.

As a British colleague said on 10 November, a visit to a center for those displaced by war in Mozambique is something that inevitably causes pity. He said this moments after we had visited one such center in the mining village of Moatize in Tete Province. When we were there, there were 191 people who had arrived from a Mozambican refugees camp in Malawi over the 2 previous days. The following day, this improvised Moatize center received another 700 Mozambicans who came from Malawi. According to information gathered from former Mozambican refugees from Malawi, who are now in Moatize, there are at least 200,000 Mozambican war refugees in Malawi. Most of them wish to return home to begin a new life in other areas of Mozambique still unaffected by banditry.

On Thursday, a group of 800 Mozambicans returned to Mozambique from Malawi. The group was part of the Mozambican refugees living in Mankhokwe refugee center in Malawi. Due to Mozambique's present difficulties, the centers in which displaced people have been settled have no infrastructure. In most cases, as we saw at the Moatize center, the displaced live under trees. Here they take shelter from heat, cold, wind and rain. The food situation is no different. In most cases flour is what one can get, as we saw at Moatize. Although the people we met at the Moatize center had been away from their homes, farms or jobs for only about 2 months, we could see that they had been plagued by famine and malnutrition. We were able, for instance, to see children who were nothing but living skeletons. We also saw children who were struggling to get milk from their mothers' breasts. Naturally, their mothers cannot provide them with enough milk due to their poor diet.

The picture that we have been trying to give you about the daily drama plaguing thousands of people in Mozambique is similar to what one can see among Mozambican refugees in Malawi. Several refugees who have come from Malawi told us even worse stories about the war refugees living in that country. A Portuguese national, who is presently staying at one of Tete city's hotels and who sought refuge in Malawi after the bandit attack in Milange District in September, summed up his dramatic experience in Malawi: I do not have words to describe what I have gone through in Malawi. Joao Fernando dos Santos is 52 years old, 40 of which have been spent in Mozambique. He said that in Malawi they lived in the open air, subject to all sorts of bad weather. I do not even want to think about it. I feel sorry for my wife who is still there. I am doing my best to bring her back, said Santos.

Most of the war refugees living in Malawi are former residents of Milange, Mutarara, Caia, Angonia, Macanga, and other border areas, which have been under heavy armed bandit attack since September. The bandits come from bases inside Malawi, mainly in Nsanje, according to the local residents. Some of the bandit victims we spoke to in Moatize and in Tete city fled their homes wearing only their pajamas. This was the case of Portuguese national Fernando Joao dos Santos. As you can see I do not even have shoes. The bandits took everything. I am forced to wear slippers because the local shops have none to sell, said the Portuguese national, who works in the fishing industry in Milange. He added that although Malawi is not faced with major difficulties, they only gave us flour to eat. Usually the bandits attack at night or dawn.

On Tuesday, 11 November, a group of young men working for the Agricultural Products Marketing Company in Angonia arrived in Tete, (?wearing almost nothing). They had fled from the town of Ulongue after it had been the target of a large-scale attack by the armed bandits coming from Malawi on 8 November.

Among the commodities in short supply at the war refugee centers are medicines and medical assistance. The French organization, Doctors Without Borders, has been trying to do its best in several areas of Mozambique. This is what they told us when we stopped over in Beira on our way to Tete. A high-ranking Mozambican Government official told AIM that there are only a few governments, to say the least, who are capable of assisting on their own so many displaced people. These people were not part of our plans, but now we must assist them in order to minimize the drama created by our enemy. It is something that it often beyond our capabilities, said the government official.

NAMIBIA

Four NP Members of Transitional Government Resign

MB251201 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1100 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Four NP representatives in Namibia's transitional government have resigned, following differences over key policy decisions. With the details, here is Brian Jones in Windhoek.

The four are the NP's representatives in the Namibian Constitutional Council, Mr Frans van Zyl and Mr Attie Arnold, and two of the party's members of the National Aseembly, Mr Alfie Meyer and Mr Gert Bermeister. Two weeks ago, the NP's nominated minister in the Namibian cabinet, Mr Eben van Zyl, announced his resignation. Party sources said there was tension between the NP representatives inside the government, who have to interpret party policy inimportant negotiations, and the party leadership, which has remained outside the government. Party members were angry and confused recently when its cabinet representative signed a decision to open all schools to all races next year.

SOUTH AFRICA

'Very Good Data' Retrieved on Machel Flight Tape

MB260720 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] South African, Soviet, and Mozambican experts investigating the air crash in which President Machel was killed have reported some progress in analyzing data on the aircraft's voice recorder. The South African director of aviation safety, Mr Rennie van Zyl, told the REUTERS news agency after two days of work in Zurich, Switzerland, that it was going too far to say that the cause of the crash had been determined. He said the experts had retrieved some very good data but that more work still needed to be done. The experts who had been meeting in a back room at Zurich airport were scheduled to fly to Moscow today for the second stage of their inquiries into the crash.

Le Grange: Torture Allegations 'Malicious'

MB220903 Johannebsurg THE WEEKLY MAIL in English 21-27 Nov 86 p 4

[Text] A statement in papers before the Durban Supreme Court alleging police assaults on detainees are "common practice" has drawn an angry denial from Minister of Law and Order Louis le Grange.

The statement is part of an application for the release of Edward Mfanelo Gumede, 20, from Westville Prison.

Detained on October 16, Gumede claims he has been held in solitary confinement ever since, has been assaulted during an interrogation session and fears further assaults.

In an affidavit supporting his call for a court order declaring his detention unlawful and interdicting police from assaulting him, Gumede claims assault is a standard method of interrogation by SA Police.

Le Grange's strongly-worded responding affidavit labels the detainee's allegation as "a malicious attempt to place the SA Police in a bad light" and claims Gumede's detention is lawful.

Gumede's lawyer, Sharon Williams, of Chennels Albertein Associates, said numerous affidavits from detainees in Westville Prison Substantiating Gumede's allegation have been filed in the Supreme Court by several legal firms.

Police have produced 12 affidavits from detainees in Westville claiming they have not been assaulted. The return date for the hearing is February 26.

Meanwhile an interim order was granted last week restraining police from assaulting a northern Natal detainee who says he fears he may be killed while being held in solitary confinement in Paulpietersburg Police Station.

In affidavits before the Supreme Court in Pietermaritzburg, union organiser Hlalanathi Sibankulu, 22, claims his life has been threatened and he has been advised during interrogations by police to hang himself.

In affidavits before the court, Sibankulu stated that since his detention on June 20 this year, he has been held in solitary confinement, viciously assaulted and tortured on numerous occasions by Security Police.

Effects of Barclays Withdrawal Examined

MB260538 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Station Commentary]

[Text] Disinvestment and business withdrawals have mainly involved United States companies. Will there now be a wave of disinvestment from Britain and Europe prompted by the selling of its South African shareholding by a major British concern, Barclays?

The general view of observers — ranging from South Africa's ambassador in London to the West German Chamber of Commerce and Industry — is that there will not be a European stampede. The Institute for Research and Information on Multinationals in Geneva says that, unlike American corporations that have a large national market to fall back on, European companies are dependent on international markets, and that moreover, the profit on European investments in South Africa is on average higher than that on United States investments.

Where there has been disinvestment, it is, in fact, economic considerations that have in most cases been given as the primary reason for withdrawal. Political influences undoubtedly have an impact on disinvestment decisions — as in the case of Barclays, which was losing business among politically conscious clients in Britain because of its ties with South Africa.

But it is significant that multinationals that are doing good business in South Africa — such as Shell Oil of the Netherlands — intend staying in this country, while corporations — such as General Motors of America — that have had poor business performances of late have decided to leave.

The Barclays decision to break its links with South Africa is to be regretted, both because of the group's stature in Britain and because of South Africa's traditionally friendly ties with that country.

But there are several pluses. The local Barclays is now 100 percent South African owned — 30 million rand that was remitted annually to British shareholders will now stay in South Africa — and the bank is confident that it will enter a new growth period that will be of benefit to the economy as a whole.

We will also be spared the adverse publicity and propaganda on South Africa that (as in the case of General Motors shareholders meetings in America) was drummed up by political activists at the annual meetings of Barclays Bank in Britain, not to mention anti-South African boycott action and other activity centered on Barclays.

The other big plus, of course, is that the shareholding concerned was absorbed by South African interests. That this could be the case with Barclays as well as with General Motors — two of the big guns amongst the worlds multinational corporations — is encouraging as South Africa faces up to economic warfare.

Black Care Facility Called 'Concentration Camp'

MB231116 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0500 GMT 23 Nov 86

[Text] There is a great deal of criticism about the government's new care institution for blacks. The *Sunday Tribune* quoted experts as saying the center, 20 km north of Pretoria, resembles a concentration camp which even a tank could not break into. The project, called (Rietgaat), was started by the Department of Constitutional Development and Planning at a cost of some 16 million rand. It will initially be used as a place of safety and detention for black teenagers and will eventually house physically and mentally handicapped people as well.

However, experts in the field say it is contrary to modern practices of welfare care, pointing out that isolating the mentally handicapped from the community is an outdated concept.

'Only' 1 in 3 Whites Blame Government for Economy

MB241355 Johannebsurg SAPA in English
1353 GMT 24 Nov 86

[Text] Johannebsurg, Nov 24, SAPA — Only one in three white South Africans blame the government for the state of the economy, according to a poll. It showed that 18 per cent put the blame on the international community and 12 per cent blamed the ANC.

The Markinor Gallup poll, carried out among 1000 white adults, showed that three per cent of respondents blame trade unions for the state of the economy and that two per cent blame big business. A futher 24 per cent say "others" are responsible, 17 per cent believe no one is to blame and four per cent dont know.

More than twice as many English speakers (48 per cent) than Afrikaans speakers (22 per cent) blame the government. Afrikaans speakers tended to be more critical of the international community, with 22 per cent blaming foreign countries for the state of the economy and 16 per cent blaming the ANC.

Rejection of the governemnt's economic policies was strongest among the better educated and the more affluent, at 25 per cent of those with Standard 8 and 44 per cent of those with a post-matric qualification, and 28 per cent of those with a monthly household income of less than R1250 and 42 per cent of these earning more than R3500.

Respondents in the Durban, Cape Town and Witwatersrand areas recurded the highest percentage of those believing the government was to blame for the state of the economy, at 43.5, 42.4 and 34.3 per cent respectively. In Pretoria, 23.0 per cent of respondents believed the government was to blame, while in the Port Elizabeth/East London region the figure was only 17.5 per cent. Respondents were allowed to give more than one answer.

Safe Radioactive Waste Transport Promised

MB240824 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0803 GMT 24 Nov 86

[Text] Cape Town, Nov 24, SAPA — The mere mention of the words radio-active waste, or radwaste as it is generally called, normally creates a reaction of fear and mistrust, the minister of mineral and energy affairs, Mr Danie Steyn, said at the Koeberg nuclear plant outside Cape Town today. Addressing a news conference before the first transportation of low level radio-active waste from Koeberg to Vaalputs, where the waste will be stored, Mr Steyn said he wante dto assure the people of South Africa that the transportation of radwaste complied with the licence granted by the Atomic Energy Corporation and though fear and mistrust was understandable, it was unfounded. "Today I want to assure you again of the high standards which apply for the safety, not only of the general public, but also for those working at Koeberg," Mr Steyn said.

It is expected that Koeberg would produce 1000 steel and 500 concrete holders of low and middle level radwaste per annum. The holders will be transported to Vaalputs in Namaqualand where it will be buried in 10 metre deep ditches. According to the licence granted the vehicle must have two drivers and there will be radio communication between the vehicle and Koeberg along the entire route and the minimum specified time of communication is once every hour.

Professor John Martin, chairman of the Council for Nuclear Safety, said the council had, after careful review of all safety aspects, recommended to the Atomic Energy Corporation that authority be granted which will allow the Vaalputs facility to receive low and intermediate radioactive waste. "All radioactive waste, which includes the protective clothing, such as overalls and gloves, will be packed and buried in steel drums. The concentrates, liquid waste, ion-exchange resins and filters will be mixed with cement and packed into concrete containers," he said.

The distance between Koeberg and Vaalputs is approximately 520 kilometres and the first load comprise four concrete drums and 16 metal drums. The travelling time is expected to be about nine hours.

Minister Expects Reforms To Change Competition

MB260722 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] The minister of trade and industry, Mr David de Villiers, says he expects the present political and economic reform process to change the whole structure of competition in the South African economy. Speaking at the inauguration of the small business council in Pretoria, Dr De Villiers said while there would be more competition, there would also be more opportunities. He said there were too many regulations which limited the small businessmen, but the government was investigating these and would phase out as many as possible. The new council would consist of practicing small businessmen from all over the country. The function of the council would be to advise the government on small business matters and coordinate the activities of this sector. The council would be chaired by Professor M.J. Swart and would be composed of members of all racial groups.

3000 Miners Striking at 3 Transvaal Mines

MB260804 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0801 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Johannesburg Nov 26 SAPA — About 3000 mineworkers have been on strike at three eastern Transvaal Gencor [General Mining Union Corporation] mines since Monday in protest against the relationship between the National Union of Mineworkers [NUM] and Kinross gold mine management, the union and Gencor confirmed. Gencor said yesterday that mines affected were the Winkelhaak and Bracken gold mines and the Matla colliery, near Kriel. The company said no reasons for the stoppages at Winkelhaak and Bracken had been given by the NUM.

The NUM press officer, Mr Marcel Golding, said Workers took industrial action over dissatisfaction with incidents which have taken place over the past few weeks at Gencor's Kinross gold mine. The union had telexed management repeatedly, indicating its willingness to discuss the issue, but thad had no response. Instead, he alleged, the entire shaft stewards committee at Matla had been suspended and the union refused permission to address workers in an effort to resolve the matter. Gencor's chief executive officer for gold and uranium, Mr Bruce Evans, said 120 of the 400 night-shift employees at Winkelhaak failed to report for work on Monday night, and yesterday 240 of the 6000 day shift workers were absent. He said management used teargas to disperse "intimidators" on Monday night, but "besides the few persons exposed to teargas, there were no injuries." Five people were arrested.

At Bracken, 26 of the 105 employees were absent for the Monday night-shift, and yesterrday morning 627 of the 3300 employees did not report for the day-shift.

About 2000 workers at the Matla colliery struck yesterday over the "dissatisfactory relationship" between the NUM and the management at Kinross, said the comapny. Mr graham thompson, chief executive officer of the Gencor coal division, said this was in spite of a communication between Gencor management, the Gencor National shaft stewards Council and the NUM head office since November 17. The company also confirmed an earlier statement by the NUM that a man had died after an incident at the Kinross gold mine on Sunday. Management rearlier denied a union claim that a worker had been killed at the mine on Sunday when unionists returning from a meeting were attacked by indunas [headmen] die in hospital from head injuries. The company has maintained that its security staff intervened on Sunday merely to separate the warring groups.

Manpower Chief Links Withdrawals to Labor Unrest

MB251158 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] The director general of manpower, Dr Piet van der Merwe, says the decision by multinational companies to withdraw from South Africa has contributed to increased labor unrest and strikes in the country. Dr Van der Merwe told our Pretoria news staff that the withdrawal of major companies had resulted in uncertainty and had definitely had an effect on labor unrest.

He said that the strikes and events at the General Motors plant in Port Elizabeth last month had been an example of this. Dr Van Der Merwe said that there had been a significant increase in the number of strikes until September this year, in comparison with the same period last year. He disclosed that about 238,000 workers had been involved in 481 strikes until September this year, compared with 311 strikes in the first 9 months of last year.

He said that, apart from the withdrawals of major companies from South Africa, wage disputes, disciplinary measures such as dismissals, and alleged unfair labor practices on the part of employers had also caused labor unrest and strikes. He added that external factors such as ignorance and intimidation had also aggravated the situation.

Vaal Reef Mine 'Quiet' After Fighting

MB241420 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1418 GMT 24 Nov 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Nov 24, SAPA — Some 5000 Vaal Reef mine workers returned to their hostels after a meeting today with management and representatives of workers involved in a fight last night which resulted in 11 dead and 20 injured, Anglo American Corporation spokesman, Mr John Kingsley-Jones said this afternoon. A second meeting was in process this afternoon.

The fight occurred at the mine's No 1 shaft allegedly when "certain groups, among them members of the National Union of Mineworkers, attempted to enforce a tavern boycott — an action to which other employees took strong exception," he said.

Mr Kingsley-Jones said management had not yet ascertained the reasons for a boycott of the tavern. "A petrol bomb was thrown at the shaft's tavern on Friday night and this was followed by the murder of two employees on Saturday night," he said.

He said it was difficult to tell how many men took part in the fighting "as there were lots of sporadic incidents", but there could have been between 100 and 200 people involved. A number of handmade weapons were handed in after the first meeting, and the situation on the mine this afternoon was quiet.

"The meetings are to try and resolve the differences because it is not pleasant to have employees feel threatened," he said. Of the 13 men killed, including the two murdered, eight were National Union of Mineworkers members.

The 5000 workers at the No 1 shaft did not go to work this morning and it was too early to say whether the evening shift would turn up, Mr Kingsley-Jones said. National Union of Mineworkers spokesmen were not immediately available for comment.

ANC's Nzo Calls for Help in Fight Against RSA

MB251434 Dakar PANA in English 1315 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Kabwe (Zambia), 5 Nov ZANA/PANA) — African National Congress of South Africa Secretary General Alfred Nzo has called for international assistance to help Frontline States withstand pressures from apartheid South Africa. Nzo said that the international community and other progressive forces should give moral, political and material support to the Frontline States in their efforts to help liberate southern Africa. Nzo said leaders of the Frontline States were determined not to turn their countries into feudal states of the apartheid regime.

He said this yesterday at the official opening of International Labour Organisation (ILO) seminar in Kabwe, on discriminatory labour legislation in the metal industry in South Africa for the South African Congress of Trade Unions (SACTU). He said that with the deepening internal political and economic crisis, racist South Africa's international relations with the world community have worsened, adding that this was particularly so with the Frontline States.

Apartheid aggression against these countries has taken a new dangerous trend marked by the murder of the president of Mozambique, Samora Machel, more than a month ago and lately the apartheid motivated murder of two former ministers in the Kingdom of Lesotho. It has become obvious that the Botha regime will stop at nothing in its efforts to realign forces in our region in its favour, he said. Nzo also said that SACTU, operating in South Africa, was by leaps and bounds drawing terror into the hearts of the rulers in Pretoria. [passage omitted]

Information Bureau Issues 26 Nov Unrest Report

MB261111 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1100 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Pretoria, Nov 26, SAPA — Herewith the Bureau for Information's unrest report for the period 6am yesterday to 6am today. "Less than 10 unrest-related incidents were reported in the above 24-hour period in only three police districts.

"The majority occurred in Soweto. The incidents consisted of the stoning of, and petrol bomb attacks on security force and private vehicles.

"Little damage was caused and in one incident in Soweto, five black men were arrested."

ZIMBABWE

HERALD Blames Matabeleland Dissidence on RSA

MB251449 Harare THE HERALD in English 18 Nov 86 p 4

[Editorial: "Threat to Unity"]

[Text] Since it has come to light that talks on unity between the ruling party and ZAPU-PF are at an advanced stage hopes have been fuelled that the good news would be reflected in a de-escalation of banditry by the dissidents in Matabeleland.

Hence the news that bandits have killed five people in Tsholotsho and injured many more must rank among the most painful and distressing piece of news for the whole nation.

Yet it should be expected that the masters of the dissidents in South Africa will precisely choose this time to intensify acts of terrorism and banditry in Matabeleland and other parts of Zimbabwe to undermine efforts aimed at bringing about national unity.

After all, the essence of the apartheid regime's policy of destabilisation is to keep the target country on tenterhooks, to give it no respite and thus undermine its development potential.

The objective of this policy is to force the target country to deviate from its chosen path of development both politically and economically in order to create favourable conditions for the accommodation of the regional aims of the apartheid regime.

Intensification of acts of banditry at this juncture in Matebeleland means that the apartheid regime is frightened by the unity talks and is striving to create an atmosphere of suspicion throughout the country.

By sponsoring the MNR in Mozambique the apartheid regime has succeeded in stifling all development efforts at the cost of U.S. $5 billion to Mozambique.

For a small developing country this represents sabotage of the highest degree besides the toll in human lives, including that of the late president of Mozambique, Cde [Comrade] Samora Machel.

The South African racist government regards Zimbabwe as a relatively calm and stable state in comparison with what the regime has achieved in Angola and Mozambique through the sponsorship of the bandit terrorists of the MNR and UNITA.

What Pretoria would like to see is the escalation of bandit activities in Zimbabwe as in the two former Portuguese colonies.

It is in response to that that we support all efforts to achieve unity and create an atmosphere of confidence and mutual trust across the land.

We are quite aware that the achievement of unity will not by itself bring about the cessation of bandit activity overnight.

Banditry could even become more sharp, but that could only be over a short period, before unity brings about an altogehter new political atmoshphere with its own momentum.

Unity will be conducive to regarding the dissidents and the bandits as enemies of all of us in this country regardless of the region we may come from.

That in itself would go a long way to permitting the national mobilisation required to cut from under the feed of the apartheid regime the conditions which favour its sponsorship of dissidents.

One of the priorities of the Frontline States such as Zimbabwe is to strive at every turn to limit the apartheid regime's ability in the region to sow seeds of discord and division.

The regime has been recognised by the world as the principal cause of the dangerous situation in southern Africa. It has no longer any moral ground upon which to stand except brutal force, and that historically is fraught with enormous limitations.

Air Traffic Agreement Signed With Aeroflot

MB252015 Harare Domestic Service in English
2000 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Zimbabwe and the Soviet Union have signed an air traffic agreement allowing their respective airlines, Air Zimbabwe and Aeroflot, to fly to each others capitals. The agreement was signed in Harare this morning by the minister of transport, Comrade Herbert Ushewokunze, and the Soviet deputy minister of aviation, Comrade Oleg Smirnov. Air Zimbabwe and Aeroflot will be requested to work out the modalities of the flight route, the intermediate points, and the full schedule. It hoped that the airlines will begin flights to Moscow from Harare and vice versa as soon as they have agreed on the schedule.

Meanwhile according to Comrade Ushewokunze, the government and Air Zimbabwe are negotiating with the Soviet Airline to see if any pilot training programs could be arranged and if Air Zimbabwe could buy aircraft and aircraft parts from the Soviet Union. Comrade Ushewokunze said negotiations with Soviet officials have been going on for the past 4 years.

Soviet Party Delegation Arrives on Visit

MB241746 Harare Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 24 Nov 86

[Text] A top-level delegation from the Communist Party of the Soviet Union arrived in Harare today at the start of a 9-day working visit during which members will hold talks with the ruling party, ZANU-PF. The talks are aimed at strengthening ties and cooperation between the two countries. The 5-member delegation is led by Comrade Karen Demirchyan, a member of the Supreme Soviet of the Communist Party [title as heard], and four other officials from the Department of International Affairs of the party.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

28 NOVEMBER 1986

Syria

In response to the FRG's expulsion of four Syrian diplomats, Syria recalled its ambassador in Bonn and expelled three FRG diplomats, Damascus radio reported 28 November. The radio noted that the Foreign Ministry expressed "regret" over the FRG's "embroilment" in a "campaign of deception and accusations." The FRG announced diplomatic sanctions against Syria 27 November in reaction to the implication that "Syrian state authorities" abetted two Jordanians convicted of bombing a West Berlin German-Arab cultural center in March, according to DPA.

President Hafiz al-Asad received the Saudi interior minister 27 November for talks on the regional situation, SANA reported.

Libyan Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud chaired an "emergency meeting" of the General Secretariat of the Pan-Arab Command to discuss "imperialist aggression," Tripoli radio reported 27 November.

Iran

Three Italian diplomats were orderd to leave Tehran and all Italian cultural centers were closed 27 November, Tehran radio announced. Iran's ambassador to Rome was also recalled, IRNA reported. The action followed a "strong protest note" over a "sacrilegious" television program which mocked Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, according to IRNA.

In remarks cited by IRNA 26 November, Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi termed the British-Omani exercise in the Gulf a "direct provocation" and stressed that the waters of the Gulf and the Indian Ocean should be "cleansed of all foreign forces."

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi warplanes raided a jetty on western Khark Island and hit a "large maritime target" near the Iranian coast, a military spokesman told INA 27 November. Communiques broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio 26 and 27 November announced that Iraqi air strikes caused "important losses" on various military camps, including Marivan and Sar Dasht. According to IRNA, 10 civilians were killed and 11 wounded in Sar Dasht and 2 were killed in Marivan 27 November. The agency also noted that eight were killed in Saqqez 26 November.

An Iranian air strike caused "irreparable damage" to the Iraqi base at Irbil 26 November, according to a communique cited by IRNA. An Iraqi communique issued on the same day noted that 4 civilians were killed and 33 wounded when residential areas in Irbil were attacked.

In the wake of air raids on 25 November, an Iranian announcement broadcast by Tehran radio 27 November charged that Iraqi aircraft refuelled in a third country en route to attack Larak Island. Meanwhile, an Iraqi Foreign Ministry statement cited by INA 26 November condemned "Iranian aggression" against a UAE oil platform and expressed Iraq's solidarity with the UAE.

Saudi Arabia

An "official source" cited by SPA denied 27 November that Adnan Khashoggi acted on behalf of the Saudi Government in arranging funding for Iranian purchases of U.S. weapons.

Saudi King Fahd and Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman al-Khalifah presided over the official opening of the Bahraini-Saudi causeway 26 November, WAKH reported. During "comprehensive" talks in Al-Damman on the Saudi side, the two leaders condemned the 25 November attack on the UAE oil platform, Riyadh radio noted.

Israel

Arms Transfer to Iran — In remarks reported by *Ma'Ariv* 27 November, Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres denied that U.S.-Israeli friendship was endangered by the aftermath of the arms transfer to Iran and stated that Israel has no reason to "intervene" in the Iran-Iraq conflict. In a related development, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Ministers Peres and Yitzhaq Rabin established an investigative team to discover the source of the leak on Israel's role in the arms transfer, *Yedi'ot Aharonot* reported 27 November.

Peace Process — Prime Minister Peres stated that Israel agrees with Jordan, Egypt, and Morocco that there is "no alternative to direct negotiations," in a 27 November interview on Jerusalem television. Peres added that while the four countries agree on the nature of an international conference, differences over the rules are delaying the proposed talks.

Vanunu Case — Mordekhay Vanunu was indicted on four charges, including "collaborating with the enemy" and "aggravated espionage," IDF radio reported 28 November.

Lebanon

Israeli Raid — Israeli warplanes attacked 10 positions and fortifications in Sidon used by "Fatah and other terrorists," according to a military spokesman cited by Jerusalem radio 27 November. Some 25 people were killed or wounded in the raid, Beirut radio reported 28 November.

Camps War — "Violent clashes" continued to rage between Amal and Palestinian gunmen in Beirut's southern suburb and in the hotly contested Maghdushah area, Voice of Lebanon radio reported 28 November. According to Beirut radio 27 November, 40 Palestinians were killed in the Maghdushah fighting. Meanwhile, Radio Monte Carlo revealed 27 November that talks in Damascus have yielded a draft cease-fire agreement which is expected to be implememted in stages over the weekend.

PLO Affairs

Iraqi President Saddam Husayn received PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat 27 November, Voice of the Masses radio reported, adding that they discussed recent developments in Lebanon.

Libya

In a *Die Zeit* interview published 28 November, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi did not rule out the improvement of U.S.-Libyan relations after President Ronald Reagan completes his term of office. Al-Qadhdhafi reiterated his call for a benchmark price of $30 per barrel and declared that Libya is prepared to stop oil production until prices are "reasonably high." On the Iran-Iraq war, the Libyan leader told JANA 27 November that the killing of civilians by either side is a "cowardly act."

FBIS

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Fatah's Khalaf Lambasts Iran on Arms Shipments

LD280936 Kuwait KUNA in English 0809 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Tunis, Nov 28 (KUNA) — A high-ranking Palestinian official urged here yesterday convocation of an Arab summit, or at least a Ministerial Council meeting, at the sidelines of the Kuwait-hosted Islamic summit conference next January.

Addressing diplomatic Arab missions accredited here, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf severely lashed out at the Iranian officials for their cooperation with the U.S. and Israel in securing arms shipments, adding that Iraq is defending the whole Arab nation, in addition to its people, in this war.

Over the situation in Lebanon, Khalaf, better known as Abu Iyad said the goal of this tragedy is to eliminate the Palestinian presence in Lebanon, and compares to Amal's massacres in the Palestinian camps and the Israeli carnage of Dayr Yasin in 1948, which were aimed at coercing the Palestinians to leave their homes.

Seeks 'Urgent' Arab Summit

NC271943 Paris AFP in English 1927 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Tunis, Nov 27 (AFP) — The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) on Thursday called for an "urgent" Arab summit to precede the Fifth Islamic Summit in Kuwait next January, citing what it termed a "conspiracy" against the Palestinian people and "complicity" in U.S. arms sales to Iran.

The purpose of such an extraordinary summit would be to deal with "deterioration" in common Arab action and to map out "a program of defense for the Arab cause in general," said Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, member of the Central Committee of the main PLO wing, Fatah.

The call came after Saudi Arabia, earlier Thursday, denied U.S. news reports that it was involved in the controversial U.S. arms sales to Iran, linked by articles in *The New York Times* and *Washington Post* to wealthy Saudi businessman Adnan Khashoggi.

"We have emphasized to Arab ambassadors that Iraq is not only defending its territory (in the Gulf war with Iran) but also the entire Arab cause," Mr. Khalaf said in a statement issued by PLO headquarters here following an informational meeting of Arab diplomatic mission heads.

That meeting was boycotted by Syria and Libya.

Without naming Saudi Arabia, Mr. Khalaf urged Arab world leaders to react to the "conspiracy" against the Palestinian people and to "denounce" complicity in the arms sales to Iran.

Washington and Jerusalem have acknowledged that Israel served as an intermediary in the arms shipments to Iran.

In the event that an Arab summit could not, for "different reasons" be held, said Mr. Khalaf, a meeting of Arab nation foreign ministers "should be held on these questions" before the Islamic Summit.

He told the AFP he had warned Thursday's meeting here of the threat of "massacres" in the Palestinian refugee camps south of Beirut following what he termed "intimidating actions" by "fascist groups" in Jerusalem.

He said he had further denounced "atrocities and massacres committed by Amal (Shi'ite militia in Lebanon) and their supporters to liquidate the Palestinians."

(In Baghdad, meanwhile, PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat accused Syria and Israel of providing heavy support for the Shi'ite militia battling Palestinian fighters around the Lebanon camps.

(?Syria has entered the battle against the camps on the Amal side, transporting Wednesday, by helicopter, a battalion of Lebanese troops, under its command in the Al-Biqa' (eastern Lebanon), to the fighting against the camps..." [quotation marks as received] Mr. 'Arafat said.)

Fatah's Al-Wazir Discusses PLO Unity With PFLP

JN280928 Kuwaiti AL-ANBA' in Arabic 26 Nov 86 p 25

[Salam Musafir dispatch from Moscow]

[Text] Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has said that his current short working visit to Moscow is part of the continuing contacts between the Palestinian revolution and the Soviet Union and is within the framework of strengthening relations.

In a statement to *Al-Anba'*, Abu Jihad said his talks in the Soviet Union are taking place at a time when the Palestinian revolution is facing a fierce onslaught both within the occupied territory and in Beirut and southern Lebanon; an onslaught represented by continued aggression in the form of a scorched-earth policy against Palestinian camps. Such an aggression has not stopped despite all the appeals and mediation efforts to halt it.

Abu Jihad, who heads a Fatah delegation that arrived in Moscow 2 days ago, said the current developments in the Palestinian arena are connected with continued efforts to strengthen the unity of Palestinian resistance factions. These efforts are the direct reason for his visit, he said, adding he will review the situation with Soviet officials to inform them of the latest developments.

Answering a question about the latest results of the meetings between the Palestinian factions, Abu Jihad said: We held a series of meetings with Soviet officials from the CPSU Central Committee, the solidarity committee [AAPSO], and the Foreign Ministry on the one hand, and with PFLP Secretary General George Habash in Prague and Moscow on the other.

He added the meetings have opened a way for continued contacts between Fatah and the PFLP, contacts that have been interrupted for more than 3 years. He declared: In our meetings, we concentrated on common denominators that could form a basis for cooperation under the present difficult circumstances.

Abu Jihad explained: Despite differences in political views and stands, we believe the meetings have brought about a new move toward joint cooperation based on the continued contacts between the Fatah Central Committee and the PFLP Political Bureau, contacts that will be resumed in the coming weeks; cooperation in the joint struggle in the occupied territory; continued cooperation and joint confrontation in resisting all attempts to liquidate the Palestinian rifle in Lebanon, regardless of the consequences; and joint action to strengthen Palestinian national unity within the framework of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Abu Jihad disclosed that they discussed convening the PNC to hold a comprehensive Palestinian dialogue. He said: Fatah made a proposal to the PFLP, which was taken by a member of the PFLP Political Bureau in Prague to Damascus, where most of the PFLP leaders are now.

Abu Jihad declared: We hope the proposal will be studied so a joint stand may be defined on a number of political issues. The most important of these issues is Fatah's readiness to declare its stand on political issues now under discussion with the PFLP, and declaring a stand on withdrawing from all political and organizational frameworks which lie outside the PLO.

In conclusion, Abu Jihad said: Fatah is very anxious to open the doors to all factions and is very anxious for all brothers in the Palestinian arena to move toward strengthening Palestinian unity. He expressed the hope that everyone would overcome secondary differences and shoulder their responsibilities under the present circumstances.

Al-Anba' has learned from Palestinian sources in Moscow that during the meetings held in Prague and Moscow, Fatah expressed a readiness to give up the Amman agreement completely in return for specific conditions which the PFLP must meet.

Following the intensive meetings which have been held and are being held among factions of the Palestinian revolution, there will be in the coming weeks a Palestinian agreement to convene the PNC. Both Algiers and Moscow played a part in bringing about these meetings following the Aogerian initiatve announced during Algerian President Bendjedid's visit to Moscow in mid-1986.

Abu Jihad left Moscow yesterday while George Habash stayed.

DFLP's Hawatimah Interviewed on PLO Unity

PM281049 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 21 Nov 86 p 8

[Unattributed report on *Al-Hawadith* interview with DFLP leader Nayif Hawatimah; date and place not given]

[Text] In his interview with *Al-Hawadith*, DFLP leader Nayif Hawatimah stressed that, from the political viewpoint, the DFLP is concerned with the unity of the PLO on a political basis hostile to the Camp David solutions; therefore, the front has rejected the Amman agreement between Yasir 'Arafat and Jordan's King Husayn.

Concerning the Palestinian camps in Lebanon and the continuous fighting to which they are exposed, Nayif Hawatimah said: "The realities on the ground confirm that none of the Palestinian leaders plans to return to south Lebanon or to Lebanon in general. Everyone knows that the Palestinian resistance does not intend to return to the situation which existed before 1982; but we are insisting on protecting the Palestinian camps, which have been exposed to continuous massacres since 1982. Therefore they have the right to be equipped with defensive weapons to prevent these massacres. These massacres were perpetrated by the hands of Israeli and Lebanese forces, and they are now being carried out by the Amal movement: Each has its own objectives, and ultimately the Palestinians are the victims. We cannot allow the Palestinian camps to remain a victim for any of those. What is now happening in Lebanon is attempts by Amal, or a move by Amal, to enter those camps in order to appropriate them and confiscate their defensive arms. This will lead to their removal and evacuation to the north. For example, in the recent clashes last October Amal bulldozered a small camp called Jall al-Bahr in Tyre zone; this has clearly revealed that the camps in Tyre zone will face the same fate. This will not be allowed to happen to the Palestinian camps because the Palestinians have been there since 1948 and there is no other place for them to go. This is, in short, what is now going on in south Lebanon. Anything other than this is mere demagoguery. Israel claims there are Palestinians who have returned to south Lebanon to justify its aggressive policy of occupation, or to justify its presence in the Lebanese territories still occupied by it, or to justify its rejection of the Security Council resolutions calling on Israel to withdraw from the occupied Lebanese territories".

Mr Hawatimah once again reaffirmed that "The situation will deteriorate if the PLO is disunited, and our enemies know that for certain. Therefore they have assigned all their resources to removing and evacuating the Palestinians and dividing them further. Because of all this we are insisting on the need for unity. All patriotic Arabs and Arab liberation forces are with us. We know the road of unity is the only way to defend our struggle and independence. For this reason, we try to prevent what our enemies want to do to us in order to divide us further. They want us to take the Camp David road. If there is genuine and comprehensive unity in the PLO, all our enemies' plans will never be realized"

'Arafat Affirms Readiness to Cooperate With Jordan

JN261827 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has affirmed the PLO's commitiment and readiness to cooperate with Jordanian officials within the framework of the Jordanian-Palestinian joint coordination committee to support the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories, in accordance with the resolutions of the Baghdad summit.

Brother Abu 'Ammar denied knowledge of any arrangements for a meeting with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and King Husayn of Jordan, in Cairo. He said he has an open invitiation to visit Cairo anytime. He welcomed any Arab meeting anywhere that aims to further the Palestine question.

In a meeting with reporters in Riyadh the day before yesterday, Brother Abu 'Ammar explained that Egyptian President Husni Mubarak has responded to the PLO's appeal not to deal with the second part of the Camp David accords concerning the Palestinian people.

On the situation in Lebanon, Brother Abu 'Ammar explained that the current siege of the Palestinian camps is a plot aimed at establishing a Shi'ite canton and deporting 500,000 Palestinians within the scheme to divide Lebanon.

Sends 'Appeal' To Mubarak

NC271728 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1652 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 27 Nov (MENA) — MENA has learned from Palestinian sources in Cairo that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat today sent President Husni Mubarak the text of an appeal he had addressed to Arab leaders concerning the continuing massacres of Palestinians in Lebanon camps by the Amal Movement, with Syria's support.

The Palestinian leader made an urgent appeal to the Arab leaders yesterday on the situation in the camps and the conspiracy against the Palestinians, in which the Shi'ite Amal Movement, Syria, and Israel are involved.

Amal's Nabih Birri Comments on Damascus Talks

JN262110 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2000 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus carried within the "Panorama" program]

[Text] A short while ago [Lebanese] Minister Nabih Birri stated the following to our radio: During the past few days, we have held talks with our brothers in the Lebanese national forces and the plan under discussion — by this Birri means the plan for a political solution — is the following: First, a comprehensive cease-fire, coupled with the Palestinians' withdrawal to their camps. Second, the Amal movement's deployment in the areas where they were present prior to the incidents. Third, following the implementation of the first and second points and after the Amal movement's deployment, the Damascus agreement on the Al-Rashidiyah camp will be implemented. Fourth, the Damascus agreements on Beirut and the suburb will be implemented. Fifth, this will be followed by a national Lebanese-Palestinian meeting sponsored by Syria to agree on future Lebanese-Palestinian relations.

Birri added: All these points are not a topic of disagreement on anyone's part. The subject which is still under discussion and which has not been decided yet is how to lift the siege imposed on the entire Lebanese south and how to secure the national resistance road to and from the south. We proposed that the Lebanese national forces led by the Progressive Socialist Party under brother Walid Junblatt be in charge of the road, particularly in Sidon. This subject still needs discussion by the national forces and brother Mustafa Sa'd because it is unacceptable for the south to be amputated or rewarded for its struggle in this manner. We understand the concern for the Palestinian camps, which we also care about. We care about the Palestinian people as much as we care about ourselves. If ensuring security for the Palestinians is required — and this is their right — then it is also required to break the siege imposed on the south and ensure the safety of its inhabitants who have offered a lot for Lebanon and particularly the Palestinian people.

Birri added: I do not think the Arabs or the Lebanese have offered as much as the Lebanese people have offered. [as heard] We want to make it clear that we care very much for the Palestinians and their cause, but we are at the same time responsible for the liberation of the south.

Draft Agreement Reached

JN272051 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2010 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus carried within the "Panorama" program]

[Text] One of our sources has provided us with the draft agreement reached between the Amal movement and the Palestine National Salvation Front [PNSF] leadership under the auspices of the Lebanese nationalist forces and Syria. The agreement says:
1. A complete cease-fire will be observed as of 1500 tomorrow, Friday.

2. The Palestinian forces will start withdrawing from east of Sidon to their positions inside the camps beginning at 1800 tomorrow until 0200 the day after tomorrow.

3. The Amal forces will return to their positions east of Sidon at 0600 on Saturday.

4. The internal security forces will supervise the cease-fire and the withdrawals as well as the handover of positions to what they were at dawn last Monday.

5. Vehicles carrying food will move from Sidon to Al-Rashidiyah camp at 0600 On Saturday.

6. Vehicles carrying food as well as ambulances will enter Al-Rashidiyah at 0800, that is, 2 hours after the Amal forces have returned to their positions.

7. The joint Lebanese and nationalist forces under Walid Junblatt will protect the coastal road from Beirut to the south, ensuring free passage through Sidon.

8. The issue of Burj al-Barajinah and Shatila will be dealt with on Sunday and the siege of Al-Rashidiyah will be lifted the same day in accordance with the Damascus agreements.

9. The central nationalist meeting will take place in Damascus on Monday to discuss the Lebanese-Palestinian relations of nationalist struggle.

Tonight [Lebanesee Ba'th Party leader] 'Asim Qansuh, [Lebanese Communist Party leader] George Hawi, and [Syrian Social Nationalist Party leader] 'Isam al-Mahayri left for a meeting with Walid Junblatt and [Nasirite Grouping Secretary General] Mustafa Sa'd to inform them of this agreement and obtain their approval.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT Criticizes U.S.-Iran Contacts

PM271633 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 22 Nov 86 p 9

[Ahmad Baha' al-Din article: "Reagan's Latest Scandal"]

[Text] The exposure of U.S.-Israeli involvement with Iran carries many many serious implications. It is a scandal which speaks for itself, with no need for others to talk about it.

What do we see?

We see U.S. President Reagan, who does not stop urging that terrorism be combated — to the point of bombing Libya — himself getting involved in continuous bargaining with Iran so that the Hizballah Party in Lebanon might release the U.S. hostages to win him some votes in the midterm elections — which he lost anyway.

Anyone who does not think much of this interpretation does not know that the United States, with its might and distant as it is from the world, is like the Rome of old when it was the only power. Winning votes at home is the most important consideration of its leaders — and let other people here and there go to hell. Let wars continue here and there since everything is happening faraway from the American "citadel", whose rulers' main concern is to win the votes of its people, who know very little about the outside world, very little that matters to them unless it touches their skin. Exchanging five American hostages for shipments of arms that would kill hundreds or thousands of people is worth the risk.

We see increasing in-depth cooperation between the United States and Israel. Israel is the absolute ally of the United States. In this particular case, this top secret and most crucial case for the U.S. President, Israel, as the executive partner, knew what was going on while Reagan's secretary of state, Shultz, did not. In other words, there was a secret which Reagan and Peres discussed in their meetings and which George Shultz had no right to know. Is it conceivable, therefore, that Reagan would, in his political decisions, give preference to something not acceptable to Peres or Shamir?

We see that big-power politics have their own criteria. That was true in the past and it will always be true. Any other naive view of this matter should be dismissed. For example, Britain expressed support for the Arab revolution during World War I but had already signed the fruit over to imperialism in the Sykes-Picot agreement. Now, the United States declares utter hostility toward Iran, or at least neutrality, and gives the Arabs guarantees when in fact it has for years been trying to find a way to reach an understanding with Iran. As usual, what has been revealed is only part of the truth, which we will not know for a long time.

We see that deception has reached a point where publicly the United States says it is putting pressure on Israel to prevent it sending arms to Iran, while secretly it comes to some understanding with it on the dispatch of such arms.

We see that Arab anger is something which the United States does not take into consideration at all, on any front.

KUWAIT

Government Denounces Assistance to Israel

LD271336 Kuwait KUNA in English 0931 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] New York, Nov 27 (KUNA) — Kuwait has denounced any assistance given to the aggressive and expansionist Zionist entity as equal to recognizing occupation and suppression of people, calling upon the U.N. to name a preparatory committee for the planned international peace conference on the Middle East.

It also appealed on [as received] major powers reluctant to endorse the idea of the international peace conference, out of partiality to Israel, to join the world community in supporting the plan as the suitable framework for tackling the issue, with the participation of all parties to the conflict, including the PLO as legitimate and sole representative of the Palestinian people.

Addressing the U.N. General Assembly's session here last night on the Mideast situation, Kuwait's permanent delegate Muhammad Abu al-Hasan termed the problem as the biggest dilemma facing those concerned with world peace and security and the sacred rights of people in such a strategic area.

He noted that since it was implanted in the Arab land of Palestine, Israel has pursued its aggressive and expansionist policy of attacking Arab countries, usurping Palestinian right and land and causing a constant state of tension and instability at the world level.

Ambassador Abu al-Hasan cited Israel's continued occupation of Arab lands, illegal annexation of the Syrian Golan Heights, its invasion of Lebanon and occupation of south Lebanon and its air raids against Iraq and Tunisia.

This violent and adventurist Israeli nature, the delegate indicated, reflects its strategy and policy aimed at liquidating all forms of Arab or Palestinian resistance and imposing Israel's hegemony over the entire area.

Kuwait denounces any assistance given by a U.N. member to Israel and urges the world body to do more than just condemning Israel's continued violations in the occupied Arab lands, he said, reiterating Kuwait's unreserved support to the Palestinian people and the Lebanese national resistance in fighting Israel's occupation and protecting Lebanon's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity.

Underlining legitimacy of Arab armed struggle against the Zionist invaders, the delegate refuted Israeli allegations branding these courageous acts with terrorism and repeated that just peace in the Middle East can only be attained by an Israeli complete withdrawal from all Arab territories and recognition of the Palestinian people's natural rights of self-determination and statehood.

Abu al-Hasan renewed the Arab countries' commitment to a peace settlement, recalling in this connection the 1983 Arab Fes peace plan reconfirmed at the Casablanca extraordinary Arab summit in August 1985 and called upon the U.N. to form a preparatory committee, including representatives of the five permanent U.N. Security Council states, for the planned international peace conference on the Middle East.

He said this would create the suitable mechanism to a peace settlement of the Palestinian problem and called upon major powers hesitant in supporting the planned conference to reconsider their narrow and partial stand in favour of Israel and join the international community desirous for peacefully resolving the Middle East crisis.

Paper Urges States to Review Stance on Egypt

LD270901 Kuwait KUNA in English 0801 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 27 (KUNA) — A local paper Thursday called upon Arab countries with traditional ties to Iran to reconsider their stance following revelation of alarming facts of the U.S.-Israeli-Iranian armaments deal.

Al-Ray' al-Amm daily, commenting on Israel's confirmation yesterday of arms shipments to Iran, explained that enemies of the Arab nation have unmasked themselves as parties to a dirty game aimed at maintaining and manipulating rifts and dissentions among the Arab countries.

"Nobody," it underlined, "can accept any more that some (Arab) countries supporting Iran will continue traditional relations contradicting the principles of pan-Arabism and the facts of geography, history and civilization."

The newspaper indicated that those opposing Egypt's return to the Arab fold had lost the valid reason now that it became clear that cooperating with Iran will eventually lead into the Israeli camp.

Such opposition to Egypt's return should be dropped and substituted by another practical stance that goes beyond repetition of slogans and accords with the nature of counter-moves to avoid more dissention within Arab ranks, *Al-Ray'* concluded.

OMAN

Foreign Ministry Statement on Oilfield Attack

JN261417 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs — date not given]

[Text] The Sultanate of Oman has received the news of the military aggression against the Abu al-Bukush oilfield with extreme concern. The sultanate declares its complete and total support for the fraternal UAE in its confrontation of any aggression aimed at undermining its sovereignty and its legitimate interests and warns about the consequences of repeating such hostile and irresponsible acts which can only be interpreted as an attempt to expand the conflict in the region.

Joint Forces Conduct Military Maneuvers

JN261613 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] The joint Omani-British forces, which are conducting the "Swift Sword" maneuvers on the sultanate's territory — in which forces from all ground, sea, and air corps in both countries are taking part — conducted the major portion of their maneuvers today. Today's maneuvers were watched by Fahr ibn Taymur, deputy prime minister for security and defense; Information Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Rawwas; George Younger, British secretary of state for defense and the delegation accompanying him; Staff Major General Hasan ibn Ihasan ibn Nasib, Defense Ministry under secretary; and Staff Major General Hamid ibn Sa'id al-'Ufi, assistant defense chief of staff.

Today's maneuvers included the landing of paratroopers, an attack by airborne forces preceded by an operation aimed at protecting the paratroopers' landing area through air bombardment, naval fire support, and an amphibious operation against mock enemy targets to confuse the enemy and minimize its preparedness to confront the airborne attack.

A joint force from the Omani and British forces took part in today's exercise. The maneuvers were conducted in the village of Al-Shiyah in the (Ra's al-Hibr) area of Al-Sharqiyah.

Information Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Rawwas and George Younger, British secretary of state for defense, held a joint press conference at the Qasr al-Bustan Hotel this afternoon during which they discussed Omani-British relations and the "Swift Sword" maneuvers currently being conducted in the sultanate by joint Omani-British forces. The British secretary praised Omani-British relations and described them as excellent and very strong. He also paid tribute to the high and distinguished level of the sultan's Armed Forces and their combat skills and abilities.

Maneuvers Not Result of Threat

JN271139 Doha QNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Muscat, 27 Nov (QNA) — Information Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rawwas has denied that the Omani-British joint exercises being held in Oman at present are due to a specific threat to Oman. He emphasized that Oman does not fear any threat whatsoever because it enjoys good relations with all its neighbors without exception.

Speaking at a joint news conference he held with British Defense Secretary George Younger on 26 January and reported by Muscat radio today, Al-Rawwas said the joint exercises are part of the Omani-British plans to train the forces in all weather conditions and to train the Omani forces in the use of sophisticated weapons to defend the homeland, and not to launch an aggression against anyone.

Referring to the attack on the Abu al-Bukush oilfield the Omani information minister reaffirmed Oman's support for the UAE in any stand it decides to take to deal with the situation arising from the aggression. He asserted that Oman has repeatedly called for an end to the Iraq-Iran war.

British Defense Secretary George Younger denied there is any relationship between the joint exercises and developments in the region or anywhere else.

Asked about the presence of British Navy ships close to the Gulf, Younger said instructions were issued to the ships to be in the area every now and then in case of an emergency. He asserted that the British ships did not take part in any of the events that have occurred. He said if any British ship should face difficulties, the presence of the British Navy close by will be very useful.

PDRY

Government Expresses 'Concern' Over Attack on UAE

EA270055 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] An authoritative source at the Foreign Ministry has issued a statement in which it expresses the PDRY Government's concern over the act of aggression to which the sisterly UAE was subjected by unidentified aircraft.

The source pointed out that, because of its firm, principled policy and attitudes, and its eagerness to see security and stability achieved for the peoples of the region, the PDRY expresses its solidarity with the sisterly UAE and condemns this act of aggression against a sisterly state; this violation of its sovereignty; and the harm done to its citizens and its installations.

The source stressed that such acts of aggression and other acts incompatible with the principles of international law constitute a serious danger to security and stability in the region. Because of their political results, they serve the interests of imperialism and Zionism which aim to escalate tension and exacerbate trouble spots in order to further promote their aggressive designs and objectives.

Al-'Attas Returns from Visit to Algeria, Syria

EA272318 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0330 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Excerpts] Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and the delegation accompanying him returned to Aden yesterday evening after paying a visit to the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria and the Syrian Arab Republic. [passage omitted]

Haydar Al-'Attas made a statement to ANA in which he said:

Our visit to the Democratic Republic of Algeria was successful and fruitful. Our discussions with Algerian officials, headed by Brother Chadli Bendjedid, president of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria and secretary general of the FLN Party, were characterized by complete understanding about ways of developing and strengthening the relations of our two brotherly countries in various fields.

We studied general Arab and international developments, which call for joint efforts. We bore in mind the importance of promoting and reinforcing Arab solidarity to confront the dangers and conspiracies hatched by imperialism and Zionism against our Arab nation and the PLO; to foil all the capitulationist plans and schemes in the Palestinian arena; and to restore fully the right of the Palestinian people to determine their destiny and establish an independent national state.

Our visit to Syria was also positive. With Syrian President Brother Hafiz Al-Asad we reviewed relations between the two brotherly countries in various fields and the developments in the Arab arena, namely the intensified imperialist plots against our peoples, particularly the imperialist and Zionist onslaught against Syria. We reaffirmed our firm solidarity with steadfast Syria and its attitude toward the struggle of our Arab people, particularly the cause of our Palestinian Arab people and our Lebanese Arab people, and Israel's occupation of part of their territory.

In this connection, holding an Arab summit to reinforce the solidarity of Arab states in confronting imperialist and Zionist plots has become a pressing question.

As we return home, we can say our visits to Syria and Algeria fell within the framework of our country's efforts to consult brothers on the current Arab and international situation and developments; to discover ways of holding more consultations and establishing cooperation between our countries in order to serve the cause of our Arab peoples, especially at this stage in which imperialist and Zionist plots against our peoples and their national and pan-Arab causes are increasing.

Brother Haydar al-'Attas and the delegation accompanying him left Boumidienne international Airport yesterday morning and he was accorded a big official send-off [passage omitted]

Brother Al-'Attas made a news statement on his departure from Algiers in which he said his meeting with the Algerian president was fruitful. It reflected a true brotherly spirit and determination to strengthen and develop relations between the two brotherly countries in various fields.

ANA: 'Ali Nasir Detaining 'Misguided People'

EA272348 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 26 Nov 86

[ANA political commentary]

[Excerpts] On the night of 12 January 1986, the conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his (?henchmen) misled several thousand people into attacking hills and other high points in the capital, Aden, and assaulting residential buildings and road junctions there.

At 0930 on the morning of 13 January the conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and members of his family became the first people to flee the peaceful city of Aden after he had ordered its burning and destruction. Behind him he left those misguided people whom he hurled into the crematorium of death. He used them as a means to fulfill his whims and ambitions for power and domination.

During the 10 months that have passed since the foiling of the 13 January abortive bloody coup, the conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his (?henchmen) have put a number of misguided people into detention camps to prevent them from returning to their homeland and living in peace and stability with their relatives and families, in accordance with the general amnesty decree. These misguided people are living in bad material and psychological conditions in those prison camps. This has been confirmed by those who have succeeded in escaping from those prisons and returning to the homeland, where they are enjoying freedom and a happy life.

Meanwhile, the conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his (?henchmen) are living a life of luxury at the expense of those misguided people. The conspirators do not attach any value to their legitimate rights in life, just as they did not attach any value to the life of the men, women, elderly, and children of the capital, Aden, when they embarked on their abominable deed on the black morning of 13 January, destroying innocent people and exposing the homeland to self-created dangers.

Today, in order to satisfy his crazy whims for power, the conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, is trying to violate the security and stability of our people and jeopardize innocent people's lives. In order to fulfill his sick dreams, he does not care about using some of these misled people, even if he drives them to their death, because as far as he is concerned, they are more tools he can use, just as he used other misled people whom he allowed to die, leaving orphans and bereaved people behind. On the other hand, he strove to take his wife and children to safety before giving the signal to starting the mass killing on the morning of that bloody day, 13 January 1986.

Now, after inundating the pages of numerous foreign newspapers and magazines with obvious lies and heroic statements, which cannot kill a single fly or blow up a single balloon, he is adding a new sinister factor to his disgraceful terrorist attributes: he is seeking to harm the security and stability of our people by sending terrorist sabotage squads equipped with arms and explosions which aim to continue the game of death and terrorism, which has become one of the components of sick, bloody, killer, and terrorist personality.

In reality, however, he is not adding anything new to the results of [words indistinct] in resorting to sabotage and terrorism. Our Yemeni revolution has already experienced this type of confrontation with its enemies. It has always emerged victorious and strong. [passage omitted]

However, the revolution today has firm roots and is rich in experiences. It is capable of inflicting defeat after defeat on all the plots which aim to halt its continued progress. Just as the security services, guarding the security and safety of the homeland, and citizens succeeded in arresting the sabotage and terror group sent by the conspirators to kill the men, women, and children of Abyan Governorate, they will continue their high vigilance and strike with an iron fist at whomever allows himself to be enticed into violating the security and stability of the people. The terrorists will meet the fate that is awaiting them. Justice will have its say as far as they and whoever instigated the 13 January bloody conspiracy are concerned, by means of a constitutional trial — not the show trials mentioned in the black coup statement, issued by the conspirators at noon on Monday, the 13th of bloody January when the Constitution, the law and the principles entrusted to them were perverted into committees for death. They stormed meetings halls and public squares and passed the death sentence on militants and innocent people. They implemented it in a comradely fascist manner on the orders of the fugitive killer and his bloody (?henchmen).

Today we are stronger than ever before and are profoundly confident in our ability to be steadfast in the face of challenges. Our party and people will firmly strike at all the sabotage and terrorist tentacles which attempt to violate the sovereignty, security, and stability of the homeland and its citizens. Those who have [word indistinct] in their minds must learn the lessons and consequences of those who preceded them in sabotage and also preceded them to the crematorium of death.

QATAR

Goverment Condemns Air Attack on UAE Oilfield

JN271101 Doha QNA in Arabic 1035 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Doha, 27 Nov (QNA) — The State of Qatar has expressed its regret at and condemnation of the air attack on the Abu al-Bukush offshore oilfield in the UAE.

An official source at the Foreign Ministry has stated to QNA that Qatar strongly condemns such a grave action that has claimed innocent lives, and shares the view declared by the UAE yesterday that the attack exacerbates the dangers threatening the region and threatens the interests and security of peaceloving states.

The Qatari source declared that Qatar supports the fraternal UAE with all its capabilities in all circumstances and in continuing the efforts being made within the framework of the GCC to spare the region of all dangers and threats and to strengthen security and stability in the GCC states.

Newspapers Criticize Attack

JN271245 Doha QNA in Arabic 0700 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Doha, 27 Nov (QNA) — In their editorials today, Qatari newspapers expressed regret over the attack against the Abu al-Bukush oilfield in the UAE and demanded that the Iraq-Iran war be stopped by all means.

The newspaper *Al-Rayah* said this attack came as a new, serious escalation of this war, which has grave consequences and which shakes security and stability in the region. It also constitutes an open invitation for foreign forces to interfere in the conflict meaninglessly continuing between two Muslim neighbors. It added this incident came at a time when the UAE, along with its GCC sister countries, worked sincerely to stop the fighting and urged the two sides to resort to peaceful means to end the conflict in a way guaranteeing the legitimate rights of both sides, and to find a just and final peaceful settlement of this fierce war.

Al-Rayah expressed the belief that the attack against the Abu al-Bukush oilfield was aimed at involving the UAE, along with the region's countries, in the conflict. The paper said this will not happen in any form whatsoever because the region's countries are working by all means to achieve security and peace, and this attack will not make them desist from their determination to end this war.

The newspaper *Al-Khalij al-Yawm* warned of the danger posed by such incidents to the region's stability and security. It pointed to the firm stand of the region's countries calling for the need to maintain security in the region and to deter foreign interference. The paper hailed the UAE's position on the incident, saying it was a balanced position and stressed the UAE's continued role in efforts to stop the Iraq- Iran war, while reserving the right to take appropriate measures to safeguard its security and stability and guarantee aggression will not be repeated.

The paper said Arab reactions were equal to the level of the incident. In this regard, the paper referred to Qatar's position, expressed by Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, heir apparent and defense minister, during his telephone contact yesterday with Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, Abu Dhabi heir apparent and deputy supreme commander of the UAE Armed Forces.

In conclusion, *Al-Khalij al-Yawm* called for taking decisive measures to secure the safety of the region's countries.

SAUDI ARABIA

Official Source Denies Repprt on Funding of Deal

LD271311 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1203 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Riyadh, 27 Nov (SPA) — In answer to the report yesterday evening by AP — quoting news reports published by the *New York Times* and *The Washington Times* and attributed to unspecified U.S. and Israeli sources that said it is possible that Saudi citizen Adnan Khashoggi acted on behalf of the Saudi Government in arranging the funding of the Iranian purchases of American weapons — an official source told SPA, in answer to a question put to him this morning: "We very much regret the fact that such tendentious and false reports and others are put out by some of the media that enjoy the confidence of readers throughout the world, as all the reports which were attributed to unknown sources were mere figments of the imagination and mere falsifications, and were totally unfounded."

The source added: "Despite the fact that our information policy refuses to reply to such reports — in view of the fact that we are convinced the reader realizes the aims of those who fabricate such reports and who deliberately make the media put them out — we will not hesitate to file a lawsuit in the country of origin of any media that does not seek the truth in what it publishes about

Saudi Arabia, to deal with it in a manner that will put matters on their right course."

The source concluded. "We have repeatedly announced that the official Saudi information departments, both in Saudi Arabia and abroad, are always ready to answer any query that seeks the truth."

King Fahd, Bahraini Amir Discuss Oilfield Attack

LD270227 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Excerpts] Information Minister 'Ali al-Sha'ir, made a statement to SPA after the talks chaired today by King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, and Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman al-Khalifa. He said:

Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa Ibn Salman al-Khalifa started the meeting by welcoming King Fahd Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the princes and ministers, members of the accompanying delegation. [passage omitted]

The Information Minister said the talks covered a number of issues of common interest to the two fraternal countries, especially the regrettable attack on the installation at Abu al-Bukush oilfield in northwest Abu Dhabi yesterday. They also discussed what was said during the telephone contact made by King Fahd and the Bahraini amir with Shaykh Khalifa ibn Zayid, the heir apparent of Abu Dhabi and deputy commander in chief of the UAE Armed Forces. The two sides expressed their condemnation and denunciation of this incident, which caused the death of several people and significant material damage to the field. The two sides agreed that the repetition of such an incident will lead to the shaking of security that the region enjoys, and they expressed their full support for the UAE in any measure they see suitable in order to prevent such acts. They pledged support for the UAE in any way that would help defend its territories and the lives of its citizens.

The minister added that the talks also covered a comprehensive review of the current issues on the Gulf, Arab and international arenas which are of common interest. The information minister concluded his statement by saying all the views were identical and viewpoints were agreed on principles and aims.

[Riyadh SPA in Arabic at 2015 GMT on 26 November 1986 in an Al-Dammam datelined report adds that "the Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa Ibn Salman al-Khalifa left Al-Dammam this evening for his country after a short visit to Saudi Arabia"]

YAR

Vice President Receives USSR Ambassador

JN261645 Sanaa Domesti Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] This morning, Brother 'Abd al-Karim al-'Arashi, vice president, speaker of the Constituent People's Assembly, and member of the Standing Committee, received USSR Ambassador Anatoliy Ivanovich Filev. The USSR ambassador handed the vice president the appeal issued by the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium to world parliaments and peoples. They also reviewed the cordial relations between the two friendly countries and ways to develop them.

Council 'Extremely Concerned' Over Attack on UAE

JN270928 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0520 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Sanaa, 26 Nov (WAKH) — The YAR Council of Ministers has expressed extreme concern over the serious course followed by the ongoing war between Iraq and Iran after the recent aggression against the UAE oil installations in the Abu al-Bukush oilfield. The Council regarded this aggression as a serious escalation in this losing war, a war Sanaa has always called for ending by peaceful means, in a way that will guarantee the legitimate rights of both Iraq and Iran. Noting this serious escalation, the Council of Ministers stressed that Sanaa stands by its brothers in the UAE.

Abu Ghazalah Ends 'Warm and Cordial' U.S. Visit

NC261834 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1755 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Washington, 26 Nov (MENA) — Field Marshal Muhammad ‘Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, left Washington today for Cairo, via Paris, following an 11-day visit to the United States.

In a departure statement, Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah said he is carrying a message to President Husni Mubarak from U.S. President Ronald Reagan in response to President Mubarak's note to President Reagan.

In his statement Abu Ghazalah said he had held a series of meetings with officials of the U.S. Administration during his visit to Washington. He described the visit as "warm and cordial," as usual.

Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah said: During the meetings we continued our dialogue on defense and military relations.

Abu Ghazalah expressed Egypt's appreciation for the close ties of friendship linking Egypt with the U.S. Administration and people. He also thanked the U.S. Administration for the warm welcome accorded him during his stay.

Abu Ghazalah was seen off by Egyptian Ambassador in Washington ‘Abd al-Ra‘uf al-Ridi and senior officials of the U.S. Defense and State Departments.

Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah is expected to hold talks with French Defense Minister Andre Giraud during his stopover in Paris.

AL-AHRAM Editor Views U.S. Arms Sales to Iran

JN240719 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 21 Nov 86 pp 1,3

[From the "Quietly" column by *Al-Ahram* editor in chief Irahim Nafi‘: "The United States, Israel, Iran, and the Arab Destiny"]

[Excerpts] I disagree with those who find a similarity between the Watergate scandal that brought down former U.S. President Richard Nixon and the scandal of the secret arms deal between the United States and Iran that was exposed recently, and as a result of which U.S. President Ronald Reagan is being strongly attacked, both within the United States and outside it. Both are scandals for the U.S. White House; there is no doubt about that. However, the first was a personal scandal for President Nixon connected with his personal political conduct and with his deliberately making false statements to the U.S. Congress on bugging the headquarters of the Democratic Party during an elections campaign. The second is a U.S. political scandal and not a scandal of political conduct connected with the person of the U.S. President. It is a scandal of a flagrant contradiction between a declared U.S. policy — policy that publicly condemns terrorism and any contacts with terrorists and that declares neutrality in the Gulf war — and U.S. actions in making secret contacts with those whom it describes as terrorists in Iran, and in organizing arms supplies to Iran through Israel, thus prolonging the war and fueling the destruction and devastation in the region.

The dilemma created by the arms deal is more the dilemma of U.S. policy in the world and in the Middle East than the dilemma of U.S. President Reagan.

It appears that contradiction between declared objectives and actual practice has become one of the norms of international politics in an age when interests are intertwined and international relations are complex. If the contradiction in the United States policy is scandalous, the contradiction in the Iranian policy is horrifying. [passage omitted]

Whatever pretexts the White House is now using to justify the damnable deal, in my view the deal is a scandalous mistake in the U.S. policy toward the Arab states, particularly the Gulf states.

The only justification given by the United States so far is that it is seeking to bring about the release of the American hostages, and that it wants to contact the moderate elements in Iran to support them and help them to overcome the hardliners.

In my view such an explanation is totally inadequate to justify the secret contacts with Iran. It does not justify deceiving the Arab states that are friendly to the United States.

The United States is in fact betting on the fight for succession in Iran. However, a sound political assessment will confirm that the United States will not be able to benefit from such a conflict, because its outcome is not guaranteed, and because it could lead to opposite results if the elements against whom the United States bet should triumph — and that is the more likely outcome.

Even a bet on the release of the American hostages is not altogether guaranteed. If the hostages are released then the price is exorbitant, for it means that the release of the hostages requires supplying their kidnappers with arms.

The U.S. bias in favor of Iran will pose threats to the Arab region, and it is not known why the United States did not take these threats into consideration when it concluded its arms deal with Iran. There is no doubt that Israel is seeking to prolong the war between Iraq and Iran indefinitely so as to exhaust the resources of the two sides. There is also no doubt that an Iranian victory over the Iraqi side will threaten the security and stability of the countries in the area — which is contrary to the declared policy of the United States.

Perhaps it is surprising that the secrets of the U.S. arms supplies to Iran unfolded shortly after the refusal of the United States to supply Saudi Arabia with the missiles and defensive weapons it requested, and Jordan with the arms it needs for defense. However there should be no surprises in politics, only calculations, interests, and ends that justify the "means".

The U.S. government has felt that it needs to clarify its stand and the reasons for its secret arms deal with Iran to some Arab states — after this secret deal became known and not before. U.S.

President Ronald Reagan sent messages to President Mubarak and several Arab kings and leaders explaining the reasons for and circumstances of the U.S. contacts. I do not think that the explanation was sufficiently convincing. Ever since the outbreak of the Gulf war Egypt advocated that the two superpowers should be neutral as a way to exert pressure on the two sides to stop their bloody war. As far as I know the United States understood the Egyptian stand despite Egypt's arms supplies to Iraq. However, the reports on the United States departing from its policy of neutrality and supplying Iran with arms will change many of the calculations in the region. It is certain that the recent U.S. arms supplies to Iran will not be in the interest of the United States in the long run.

The present state of Arab "silence" will not last long. Although the criticisim of and attacks on President Reagan and his policy toward Iran inside the United States are greater than in the Arab region and in the Gulf, which is being directly threatened, such Arab slumber will not last long.

The day will come when the Gulf states, including Iraq, will question the seriousness of U.S. pledges to them to support them against the Iranian threat and against external threats. Nevertheless, we are very surprised that no Arab stand has yet evolved in the face of such a threat. We are also surprised that the Gulf states that are directly facing the Iranian threat have not taken any action so far — even to call on the Arab states to discuss the new serious situation. [passage omitted]

'Arafat Adviser Meets Foreign Ministry Official

NC261903 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1845 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 26 Nov (MENA) — Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary of the Foreign Ministry and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, met this afternoon with Hani al-Hasan, a political adviser to Yasir 'Arafat. The meeting was also attended by Zuhdi al-Qudran, the Fatah Movement representative in Cairo.

At the meeting political developments in the Palestinian and international arenas were discussed, within the context of ongoing consultations and exchanges of views between Egypt and the PLO.

Hani al-Hasan arrived in Cairo this morning.

Economic Talks Begin With Soviet Delegation

NC261647 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1350 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 26 Nov (MENA) — The first session of Egyptian-Soviet economic talks began in Cairo today. The Egyptian delegation was headed by Dr Yusri Mustafa, minister of economy and foreign trade, and the Soviet group by Viktor Dementsev, chairman of the board of the USSR State Bank.

Following the talks, Dr Yusri Mustafa said that on Monday the two sides expect to sign a trade and payment agreement for the next 5 years, in addition to a trade protocol. He added that the Egyptian and Soviet sides are eager to bring the talks to a successful conclusion.

Meanwhile, two committees have been formed — the first to discuss outstanding financial problems between the two countries, and the second to discuss the commodities and goods to be included in the trade protocol.

Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Begins Talks in Cairo

NC271321 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1110 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Excerpts] Cairo, 27 Nov (MENA) — Official talks between Egypt and Ecuador opened at the Foreign Ministry this morning. The Egyptians were led by Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, while the Ecuadoran delegation was headed by Foreign Minister Edgar Teran, who arrived in Cairo last night for a 4-day visit.

Their discussions dealt with ways of strengthening bilateral political, cultural, and economic relations. [passage omitted] The Middle East situation was also covered. Dr Ghali made a detailed presentation on regional developments, the peace process, and Egypt's efforts to bring about a just and comprehensive settlement that would guarantee the Palestinian people's legitimate rights to self-determination and to a state of their own. The value of an international peace conference attended by all concerned parties was stressed as well. [passage omitted]

The conferees also examined conditions in Latin America, with emphasis on Central America. Both sides affirmed the importance of bringing peace and stability to the region. [passage omitted]

The Ecuadoran foreign minister described his talks with Dr Ghali as positive and constructive and noted that they confirmed the close relations between the two states. [passage omitted]

'Abd al-Majid Returns From Rome 27 Nov

NC280609 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2300 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 27 Nov (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned to Cairo from Rome tonight at the conclusion of a 4-day official visit to Italy, during which he led Egypt's delegation to a meeting of the joint Italian-Egyptian Commission.

Upon his arrival at Cairo Airport, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that the commission had successfully concluded its work and that a proces-verbal had been signed encompassing all areas of economic and technical cooperation between Egypt and Italy.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid declared that Egypt obtained a $93 million grant from the Italian Government, compared to $43 million in the previous agreement. It also obtained a soft loan of $150 million, compared to $105 million in the previous agreement.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that agreement had been reached on the establishment of joint projects in the areas of industry, agriculture, and food security. He also expressed his appreciation to the

Italian Government for its stand in support of Egypt's position on the IMF.

He explained that his talks with the Italian foreign minister had dealt with all aspects of the Middle East problem and with other issues that are of interest to the two countries as Mediterranean states. He added that he undertook contacts with several West European foreign ministers during his stay in Rome.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid concluded by saying that he will submit a report on the visit to President Mubarak at the earliest opportunity.

Official Interviewed on Nuclear Research

JN251422 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 22 Nov 86 p3

[By Mahmud al-Qanawati]

[Text] In a comprehensive interview with the paper, Dr Muhammad 'Izzat 'Abd al-'Aziz, chairman of the Egyptian Atomic Energy Commission, explained the importance of the uses of atomic energy in the various fields.

Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz said that although Egypt had established its Atomic Energy Commission 30 years ago — almost the same time as India established its own commission — and had preceded in this field many of the developing countries, including certain states of the region, that now possess great nuclear capabilities, certain problems still hinder its progress. On the other hand, India and Argentina, whose economic conditions are similar to ours, have given atomic energy all their capabilities.

Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz added: In fact, the lack of these capabilities in Egypt has led to the emigration of a large number of competent scientists to the West.

However, the interview with the top official in the Egyptian Atomic Energy Commission has given hope that, despite the financial difficulties it is facing, the commission still has vast capabilities and only needs financial support to establish a major nuclear base.

It is strange that while the world today is concerned about research in nuclear fusion, which is a very advanced stage, the Egyptian commission has so far not been able to obtain the approval and the funds to build a second nuclear reactor to replace the Soviet reactor, which is now outdated and for which there are no spare parts.

Despite suffering from financial and bureaucratic restrictions, the commission has made several important achievements in training cadres and technicians, concluding agreements on the processing of nuclear fuel at factory level, and getting rid of radioactive waste. In fact, the commission has established four centers for various nuclear uses.

Regarding the commission chairman's view of the commission's present situation, achievements, problems, scopes of international cooperation, and future plans and strategies, we first asked about the commission's achievements in the past 30 years as well as its current major projects.

Dr 'Abd al-'Aiz replied: The Atomic Energy Commission was established in 1955. This was followed in the late 1950's by the establishment of the Atomic Energy Organization in Imshas, where several installations were set up, beginning with the Reactors' Section — which includes, since 1961, the Soviet-made research reactor with a capacity of 2 megawatts — and the Nuclear Science Section, which includes the Van de Graaff Generator with a capacity of 2.5 million electronic volts. This generator is used in the research of nuclear reactors. There is also the Experimental Nuclear Physics Section which includes several other plants. The commission also established the Radioactive Istotopes Section, which undertakes the peaceful use of istotopes in agricultural, industrial, and medical fields; the Bioligical Radioactive Section, which undertakes the use of isotopes in the biological fields; and the Industrial Radioactive Section, which undertakes the production of atomic equipment and the maintenance of advanced nuclear-powered electronic equipment.

In the early 1960's, the number of scientific sections increased to 12, and the number of researchers also increased. The commission's nuclear scientific base expanded, and this resulted in the establishment of new organizations: the Nuclear Reactors Organization and the Nuclear Materials Organization, which was once the Nuclear Physics Section. In the 1970's, the Nuclear Energy Organization set up several research centers, including the National Center for Research and Radioactive Technology and the old Nuclear Research Center in Inshas, which was the main center and consisted of 12 scientific sections covering all basic nuclear specializations. Later, several other centers were added, including the Nitrons and Reactors section, which uses the research reactors; the Plasma and Accelerators Section, and the Water and Soil Research Section.

The research in the new centers concentrates on three areas:

1. Nuclear power support research: Among the projects started under my chairmanship of the Nuclear Research Center was the introduction of nuclear fuel technology for the first time in Egypt. A contract was reached to build a nuclear fuel plant. We have already received the equipment and we are now in the process of building this plant. The fuel units will begin production next year at the factory level in the inititial stage. The importance of this project lies in the fact that we are drawing up our plan in such a way that Egypt will not fall under the monopoly of any major power with regard to nuclear reactors. This technology is being introduced by means of a small plant that produces nuclear fuel, beginning with uranian oxide powder and ending with the manufacture of the rod used in reactors. This will be followed several years later by the semi-industrial phase. It will then be possible to build an entire nuclear fuel plant after gaining full experience. This is considered an important nuclear plan for backing the Egyptian nuclear program. A decision to build the first nuclear power station must be made soon.

2. The activity of the Nuclear Research Center: This center undertakes practical research and experimental work, mainly in the production and use of radioactive isotopes. The production of

isotopes currently takes place through the Soviet research reactor, although it is already outdated and has no available spare parts. Egypt should have obtained another reactor with a larger capacity extending to 20 megawatts.

3. Basic research, which some people consider as a kind of pastime despite its great importance: This research leads to the creation of scientific cadres and expertise familiar with nuclear experiments and research. Other major research is conducted in the Plazma Section, on what is called nuclear fusion, the ionization of gas under certain conditions. This is the opposite of nuclear fission of heavy uranium atoms. Fusion is the merger of heavy hydrogen atoms (detrium and tetrium). This generates a terrific power similar to that generated by explosions on the sun's surface. Such energy has both peaceful and military uses. A great breakthrough has been made in this field. It was once thought that it would take the world 60 years to manufacture nuclear fusion reactors. However, recent results show that the year 2010 will witness the advent of the first experimental nuclear fusion reactor. The distinctive thing about this reactor is that the fuel will be water — from which we obtain heavy hydrogen — and lithium, which is cheap and readily available. Thus, it will not be a strategic item controlled by the major powers as is uranium. Furthermore, this system is free of radioactive waste.

This is why the commission is so concerned about research on nuclear fusion. Egypt has conducted many research projects in this field that were presented to various international forums and conferences. Interest in this field is due to the extreme importance of the subject. Once nuclear fusion reactors become a reality, Egypt will have vast experience in the field.

The commission's Nuclear Research Center employs about 2,000 scientists, experts, and professionals who work as a single integrated team. One of the commission's most important new centers is the National Center for Radioactive Research and Technology in Madinat Nasr. This center, headed by Dr Hamid Rushdi who carries out a first class program, has a huge cobalt unit, a power plant that will be assembled soon, and another cobalt unit that has been in existence for several years and which is carrying out a great mission in radioactive processes, such as sterilizing medicinal and pharmaceutical preparations. This is in addition to research on improving radiation technology. The importance of the accelerator section is that it is used in treating industrial products such as rubber, car tires, and electrical cables by radiation to improve their quality.

[Al-Qanawati] Any state having radioactive materials and using the atom in its research must have the means to treat radioactive isotopes and materials and dump radioactive waste. What is the commission's position on tackling this problem?

['Abd al-'Aziz] The Atomic Energy Commission is building a radioactive processing plant that contains radioactive material. This material, contained in a shielded building, is treated from a distance to avoid exposure to radiation. The main purpose of the plant is to get rid of low-level and medium-level radioactive waste, reprocess nuclear fuel, and produce certain useful materials such as uranium. The international Atomic Energy Agency signed an agreement on building this plant, which will be a regional one. Work on this plant is about to be completed.

As chairman of the Nuclear Research Center, I concluded a contract with the German side [not further identified] on building a furnace for radioactive waste. This furnace, built in Germany, will be shipped to Egypt soon. The furnace will be used for getting rid of radioactive waste. Other radioactive material will be buried in an area being prepared for this purpose to avert any danger from radioactive waste and isotopes.

[Al-Qanawati] What research have you conducted in the peaceful use of atomic power?

['Abd al-'Aziz] In addition to what I have already mentioned, the commission has published the results of more than 4,000 research projects in major magazines. It also presented this research to international scientific conferences. This research also served as thesis topics for 550 doctorates and 700 MA degrees. This research is prepared by each section in cooperation with other sections in the center.

Research serving certain specific strategies in the commission includes work on nuclear fuel and nuclear fusion, and experiments on such materials as Egyptian steel for pressurized containers. There has also been medical, agricultural, and industrial research, such as the program on acclimatizing foreign livestock to the Egyptian environment, the use of microbiological methods in treating certain materials with radiation, and research into discovering cancerous tumors.

The Egyptian Atomic Energy Commission and the Indian commission were established at the same time. Although Egypt began work in this field before Agentina and other developing and regional countries, these countries now possess great nuclear capabilities. Therefore, we asked about Egypt's nuclear situation and the future of the Egyptian nuclear reactor.

Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz said: We are comparing Egyptian nuclear capabilities to some neighboring countries' great nuclear capabilities. Egypt can build real nuclear capabilities only if the basic needs — foremost, a large research reactor — are provided. Libya, for example, has a new research reactor of 10 megawatts and another large nuclear research center containing one of the newest nuclear fusion systems called (Nucomak). This system constitutes a base for a future nuclear fusion reactor. Such a system, which includes sophisticated and modern devices for measurement as well as two neutron generators, does not exist in the Middle East.

Egypt should have another reactor for research because Egypt is in the vanguard in this field and has given these countries the know-how. The commission's board of directors has agreed to build a second reactor and Electricity and Energy Minister Mahir Abazah is trying to get sufficient funds for it because he sees this issue as an important step not only in building our nuclear capabilities, but in training cadres for nuclear stations.

Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz added: The commission lacks nuclear cadres becausethey leave Egypt and migrate to other countries with nuclear capabilities. Egypt should have gotten its first nuclear station in the 1960's when the Commission got its first offer. At that time, the station would have cost only $35 million. Although it was a small one, it contained a nuclear fuel plant and a complete desalination unit. Today, such a nuclear station costs $2 billion.

Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz also said: Some people fear nuclear stations as a result of the Chernobyl incident. Such fear is justified because the incident was a serious one. But if we learn the facts about this incident, as well as the difference between the Chernobyl reactor and the Western reactors on which the Egyptian reactor will be modeled, our fears will disappear. The incident took place as a result of a serious human error and the absence of a concrete shield to prevent any leaks or dangerous radiation. The 3-Mile incident in the United States, for example, did not harm anybody because of just such a concrete-shielded building.

Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz added: By the end of the 1950's, India, along with Egypt, began to introduce atomic energy. They faced similar conditions, but India made good progress and became a nuclear power that can produce nuclear fuel and energy. What is true of India is also true of Argentina. The real reason for these two countries' progress in this field is that nuclear research in both countries was provided with every requirement and allowed to move freely to meet its needs, to receive sufficient funds, and to avoid government bureaucracy and other complications.

In Egypt, for example, the commision cannot spend more than 100,000 Egyptian pounds from its budget — if available — to purchase equipment from the local market, yet atomic energy requires many imported spare parts which must be bought with foreign currency. What is also strange is that the commission sometimes gets funds it cannot spend due to similar restrictions. Moreover, there is insufficient foreign currency to open letters of credit. All these complications are due to impotent bureacractic measures. For instance, we requested a multipowered cyclotron because of its extreme importance in applied sciences, in strategic areas, and in research, but we haven't gotten it yet.

There is an urgent need for us to build our nuclear cpabilities, but this will only take place gradually. Egypt must have a nuclear power station with a modern nuclear safety device, a scientific infratructure, a nucleus for producing nuclear fuel, a facility for disposing radioactive waste, and technical and scientific personnel. All these form a basis for a nuclear industry. Only after obtaining these things can we talk about Egypt's nuclear capabilities.

[Al-Qanawati] This year, a number of errors were made as a result of misusing radioactive materials. How is the commission planning to avoid such mistakes?

['Abd al-'Aziz] All the errors were personal errors and the commission has tackled them. In the cobalt unit case, the necessary measures were taken to ensure that no radiation dangers occur. The unit was then transferred to Inshas for storage.

Regarding Egypt's supervision and protection system for radioactive isotopes and sources, an agreement was reached in coordination with the Health Ministry. The present law defines the prerogatives of the Atomic Energy Commission, but sometimes difficulties crop up as a result of misapplication. However, efforts are being made to coordinate between the two sides.

On the other hand, a list of radioactive sources and isotopes is being drawn up, and instructions for their use, application, and importation have been issued. This was stressed by former Health Minister Hilmi al-Hadidi who devoted special attention to this matter. I must point out that the commission is in possession of a very important project that was approved by the Higher Committee for Economic Policies and Affairs. This project calls for monitoring radioactivity in various places. Radioactivity will be monitored in 12 places, and the results will be automatically transferred to a data-collecting center in Cairo and will be fed into a computer. With this system, we will be able to monitor the radioactive picture constantly and record any incease in radioactivity.

[Al-Qanawati] What dangers are posed by nuclear-powered ships passing through the Suez Canal?

['Abd al-'Aziz] The commission's views in this matter are very clear: the passage of nuclear-powered ships through the canal should be discouraged. The inherent dangers are more than we can face at present. In order to allow these ships to pass through the canal, we must take the precautions of a full-fledged emergency plan.

[Al-Qanawati] It was recently reported that Israel possesses nuclear arms. Did this come as a surprise?

['Abd al-'Aziz] Of course, what was reported on Israeli nuclear arms capability did not surprise those who knew Israel's nuclear capability and its long history of efforts to strengthen its nuclear power. All this had been known. Israel had a reactor whose main task was to produce plutonium, which is the nuclear fuel for the atomic bomb. Israel possesses all the capabilities to produce atomic bombs and has laboratories to train cadres in all fields. Its universities and institutes have nuclear research centers working with the aim of realizing the same strategy of building nuclear power — be it in terms of nuclear materials, nuclear weapons, or nuclear technology. Israel is also working in the field of nuclear fusion. One of the published secrets is that Israel possesses a thermo-nuclear weapon. This means that it possesses hydrogen bombs. This is not far-fetched because Israel's resources enable it to have them. Israel is not working alone. It is supported by specialized scientific powers and expertise from advanced nations. It is also cooperating with South Africa.

My plan is based on three points:

1. Continuing the promotion of the nuclear programs by supporting the nuclear fuel program and the dumping of radioactive waste.

2. Exerting our utmost to obtain for research purposes a second nuclear reactor with at least a 15-megawatt capacity.

3. Revising our calculations in terms of the commission's plans forsaving the small amount of money we obtain from the state. We must pool this money to promote definite and feasible programs with effective results. We have done a great deal of basic research and cadre preparation. We must start research on the applications and realize a clear-cut strategy.

Coptic Pope Denies Rumors of 'State' in Asyut

NC271124 Cairo MENA in English 2328 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, Nov 26 (MENA) — Pope Shinudah III, head of the Egyptian Coptic Orthodox Church, is quoted here as denying rumours that the Coptic Church is calling for setting up a Coptic state in Asyut, upper Egypt.

In an interview carried in the early edition of tomorrow's *Al-Akhbar*, a Cairo morning Arabic-language daily, Pope Shinudah, while refuting these rumours in detail, attributes them to a secret leaflet said to be issued by him in March 1982.

He says the wide circulation of this strange leaflet at that time prompted the government to form a fact finding committee, which reported the leaflet as "obviously fabricated."

On the Muslim-Copt unity of the Egyptian nation, and the point that it is formed of one element and not rpt not two elements, the Pope says he is inclined to refer to all the Egyptians, Muslims and Copts, as being one element, because the great fusion among them has obliterated all anthropological, national and cultural differences among them.

In this context, he refers also to common names given to children, with the exception, however, of distinctive names.

"The reference to the Egyptians as being two elements meant no more than belonging to two faiths. All are Egyptians, belonging to the same homeland and the same nationality", he says.

According to Pope Shinudah, the church prevented Copts from pilgrimage to Jerusalem because of the crisis over Dayr al-Sultan (monastery), a Jerusalem property of the Coptic Church turned over by the Israeli authorities to Ethiopian monks despite a verdict from the Israeli supreme court to turn the monastery back to the Coptic Church.

Communique Says Aircraft Raid 7 Iranian Camps

JN261625 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1555 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Communique No 2,459 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 26 November 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With success granted by God the almighty and with a strong determination and great efforts by brave, loyal men, our victories over the despotic, agent, and aggressor clique continue, our country's power is confirmed, and the factors of weakness, disintegration, and collapse within the ranks of our enemy are exposed. In order to inflict further losses on the aggressors, our heroic Air Force today carried out heroic new duties during which it inflicted massive losses on our country's enemies who, prompted by the wicked Zionism, are insisting on the war. These losses are as follows:

1. At 1400 [1100 GMT] today, our aircraft launched a destructive raid on the Shahin camp.

2. At 1430 today, our aircraft carried out a devastating raid on the Khaneh camp.

3. At the same time, other aircraft were making intensive strikes against the enemies in the Galdian camp.

4. At 1500 today, our aircraft dropped their crushing bombs on the (?Zail) camp.

5. At 1615 today, our aircraft launched a successful raid on the Eshahabad camp.

6. At 1616 today, our aircraft raided the (Shahqazmi) camp, destroying their targets.

7. At 1635 today, our aircraft delivered painful strikes against the Khomeyniites in the Sanandaj camp.

After inflicting massive losses on the enemy personnel, equipment, weapons, ammunition dumps, and installations in all these camps, our hero hawks returned safely and triumphantly to the homeland with their aircraft. Congratulations to our Air Force on these successive splendid victories which we announce to our people every day. We thank God who provides us with power and ability to crush the unjust enemies.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 November 1986

Communique No 2,460

JN261748 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1705 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Communique No 2,460 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 26 November 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our triumphant forces continue to inflict further losses on the aggressors. The results of our activities for last night and today are as follows:

1. Our Air Force planes carried out 149 combat missions against the enemy camps and troop concentrations in the operational sectors, after which all our planes returned safely to base, praise be to God.

2. Two units from our formations in the II Army Corps central sector raided the enemy positions and clashed with the enemy soldiers in their positions. The two units killed or wounded some enemy soldiers and destroyed several infantry positions and two machine guns, killing their crewmen. They then returned safely to base. Elsewhere in this sector, an ammunition dump and an infantry position were destroyed and the enemy engineering works were disrupted.

3. One of our units in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah spotted a group of enemy soldiers consisting of 10 persons. It pounded them with all types of weapons, killing or wounding some of them and forcing the rest to flee. Our units in this sector also succeeded in killing five enemy soldiers and destroying one vehicle, one water tanker, and three infantry positions.

4. Two patrols and two small enemy groups tried to approach the positions of one of our formations in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan. Our brave fighters confronted them with their weapons and forced them to flee after killing or wounding some of them. One of our units in this sector also destroyed an enemy vehicle and killed its driver.

5. One enemy soldier was killed and one small vehicle was set ablaze on the VII Army Corps front.

6. In an exposed, frustrated attempt by the regime of the agent charlatans to divert attention from the scandal of political coordination and armament cooperation with Zionism and its entity and with world imperialism, and in a futile attempt to distract attention from their grave losses at the hands of our brave hawks and courageous fighters on the battlefields, the scoundrels of the Khomeyniite clique again resorted to a cowardly act to express their evil feelings. They directed a missile at a densely populated area in Baghdad last night. The incident martyred 48 civilians, including 17 women and 13 children, injured 52 civilians, demolished 5 houses, and heavily damaged 35 other houses and 33 civilian cars.

The criminal enemy also shelled the valiant city of Basra with long-range artillery, martyring one child and another civilian; injuring nine civilians, including three women and two children; demolishing one house; and damaging five houses, two shops, and one civilian car. At 0655 [0355 GMT] today, an enemy aircraft penetrated our international border and attacked the residential areas in Irbil, martyring 1 child and 3 women; injuring 33 civilians, including 12 women and 8 children; and damaging 4 civilian cars.

Iraq, which has thus far refrained from hitting purely residential areas, will use its destructive power to retaliate against these heinous crimes when the hour of vengeance sets in. Mercy and forgiveness for our martyrs and a speedy recovery for our injured, God willing.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 November 1986

Communique No 2,461

JN271756 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Communique No 2,461 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 27 November 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant Armed Forces continued their confrontation of the aggressors. The results of our activities for last night and today are as follows:

1. In order to inflict further losses on the Zionist Iranian regime that insists on continuing the war on the instructions of its Zionist masters and their surrogates who claim to be Arabs, and so that the regime whose agentry has been exposed will realize that its aggression will exact a high price from it every day, large numbers of our aircraft at 1050 [0750 GMT] today simultaneously launched a destructive raid on the camps of Moshk, Robat, and Marivan. At 1445 [1145 GMT] today, other planes launched a violent raid on the Sar Dasht camp. Our courageous pilots pounded their targets in these camps and inflicted serious losses on the Zionist Khomeyniites in men and material. After carrying out their mission our aircraft returned safely protected by God.

2. Using artillery, tanks, and mortars from several positions in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah, our units dealt concentrated blows to selected enemy targets. They destroyed three infantry positions, killing all their personnel, one personnel bunker, killing everyone in it, a vehicle, damaged two vehicles, destroyed an observation post, killed three enemy personnel, and destroyed four infantry positions, a medium-caliber machine gun, and a firing position.

3. An enemy group attempted to approach our forward positions in the II Army Corps central sector. Our fighters confronted it with all types of weapons and forced it to flee after inflicting losses in men on it. Two enemy soldiers, two observation posts, and seven infantry positions were destroyed in the same sector.

4. Three enemy soldiers were killed and several infantry positions were destroyed in the VII Army Corps sector.

5. The Zionist Iranian regime shelled the city of Al-'Uzayr, the Mandali suburbs, and Biyarah with long-range artillery. The enemy shelling destroyed four houses in Al-'Uzayr.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 27 November 1986

Perez de Cuellar Gets Memo on Iranian Shelling

JN271122 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0800 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has received an Iraqi memorandum protesting Iran's firing of missiles on residential quarters in Baghdad, killing and wounding dozens of civilians. The memorandum, sent by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, to Perez de Cuellar, affirmed that the weapon used by Iran cannot discriminate and hence can only be used for deliberate, indiscriminate destruction against civilians and residential areas.

The Iraqi protest memorandum expressed Iraq's hope that the United Nations would effectively shoulder its responsibilities, in accordance with its Charter, to put an end to these aggressive Iranian crimes. The memorandum recalled Iraq's warnings about the consequences of Iran's persistence in shelling civilian residential quarters and Iran's repeated attempts to kindle the war in the cities.

The Iraqi Government also told the UN secretary general that Iran continues to shell civilian targets in Iraq. In a memorandum sent to the UN secretary general and distributed by the UN General Secretariat yesterday as an official UN Security Council document, 'Ismat Kittani, Iraq's permanent UN representative, said Iran shelled the city of Khanaqin with long-range artillery, wounding a number of civilians and demolishing and damaging several houses. In his protest memorandum, Iraq's UN representative said Iran also shelled residential quarters in Basra with long-range artillery, martyring a number of citizens and wounding others.

Planes Hit Khark Jetty, 'Large' Maritime Target

JN271839 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1825 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Nov (INA) — Iraqi Air Force planes have raided Khark Island's western oil loading jetty which the enemy was trying to repair, and reduced it to rubble.

In a statement to INA a short while ago, a military spokesman said that the Iraqi planes also raided a large maritime target near the Iranian coast and dealt it an accurate and effective hit. The spokesman added that after carrying out the two missions at 1830 [1530 GMT] today, the Iraqi planes returned safely to base.

AL-THAWRAH Views Attack on Larak Port

JN260851 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0725 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Nov (INA) — The newspaper *Al-Thawrah* has warned the Iranian rulers that the violent Iraqi blows will not end with the destruction of the Larak port. It says Iraq is determined to continue its blows and that it still has a great deal to do against important Iranian installations.

Under the headline "A Unique Operation and a Great Achievement," the newspaper, which is the organ of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, says: Any accurate examination of war developments will clearly show that the victory which Iraq decided in its favor long years ago is growing and getting greater. The defeated Iranian regime's impasse is getting worse and deeper and the balance of power in all the fields of conflict is still in Iraq's favor. It will continue to be so despite all which world Zionism has given to the Iranian rulers.

Al-Thawrah explains that the great military achievement made by the Iraqi forces' destruction of Larak port in the Hormuz Straits has broken the Iranian rulers' back and proved once again there is no target or position too deep in Iran to be safe from Iraqi blows.

Foreign Ministry Condemns UAE Oil Field Attack

JN261638 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1607 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Nov (INA) — A spokesman for the Iraqi Foreign Ministry has condemned the Iranian aggression on a UAE oil field yesterday. This aggression is considered a repetition of the aggression launched against this oil field on 16 October. In a statement issued here this evening, the Iraqi Foreign Ministry spokesman expressed Iraq's sympathy for and solidarity with the fraternal UAE in being exposed to aggression.

The Iraqi spokesman described this aggression as unjustified and said that it affirms the Iranian regime's collusion with Zionism in threatening security and stability in the Arab Gulf area and plotting against the Arab nation.

RCC, Ba'th Party on U.S.-Israel-Iran 'Scandals'

JN261453 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1300 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] The RCC and the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command held a joint session this morning under leader President Saddam Husayn.

In a statement to INA after the meeting, an official spokesman said that the RCC and the party Regional Command discussed two subjects during their meeting today: first, the latest reports on the scandals concerning cooperation among the Iranian regime, the Zionist entity, and the United States, and second, the continuous crimes by the Iranian regime, such as the shelling of Iraqi cities aimed at civilians and residential areas, including Baghdad.

The official spokesman said that during their discussion of the first subject, the RCC and the Regional Command recalled the assessments of the Iraqi leadership from the beginning that the Iranian regime had suspect ties with the Zionist entity and that the objectives of the two parties were aimed against the Arab nation.

The spokesman said that Iraq announced this fact from the beginning — since the suspect regime in Tehran began its campaigns against Iraq and its threats to Iraq and the Arab nation, that is, in 1979 and 1980. Iraq announced this also when the Iranian regime began its aggression against Iraq on 4 September 1980. The publicized scandals about the Israeli and U.S. arms deals with Iran and the contacts among them give an official and documented quality to a fact that has existed for years. The exposure of this fact in this documented and official manner as announced by the U.S. Administration in its recent statements and as officially admitted by the Zionist entity's government today reveals the reality of the suspect Iranian regime colluding with Zionism and imperialism against the Arab homeland, the Islamic world, and the entire world, particularly the forces struggling to achieve freedom and progress.

The exposure of these facts explains the Zionist and imperialist objectives of prolonging the war, the Iranian regime's insistence on continuing the war despite all the peace initiatives, and Iraq's honest stands to reach a just and honorable peace.

The spokesman said that these reports remind us of the agreement and cooperation between the Tehran and Tel Aviv regimes when they struck the Iraqi nuclear reactor that was used for peaceful purposes in June 1981.

Regarding our stand on the U.S. Administration's behavior, the official spokesman reiterated Iraq's stand as expressed in the official spokesman's statement on 15 November 1986.

Regarding the Iranian regime's crimes of bombing the Iraqi cities and threatening the purely residential areas and civilians, the official spokesman said that during their meeting today the RCC and the Regional Command emphasized their previous analysis that the Iranian regime was behaving desperately because of its war defeats and Iraq's great success in striking at the Iranian regime's military and economic targets. They stressed that the recent Iranian escalation of bombing Iraqi cities, including Baghdad, is an attempt by the Tehran rulers to kindle the war of the cities to distract attention from their big scandal of cooperation with Israel and preoccupy Iranian public opinion to keep the people from following up the details of this scandal and prevent them from questioning the regime's suspect relations with the Zionist entity and the United States — relations which were exposed in such a manner that the regime could no longer contain or conceal them.

The spokesman stressed that Iraq's ability to reply in kind, only much more forcefully, than the Iranian regime, is well known to all. However, the RCC and the Regional Command stressed that they will not give the Iranian regime any chance to achieve its suspect aims from its criminal methods because it is essential that the Iranian regime's vile methods, dirty scandals, and aims which are linked to Zionism and imperialism be further exposed to the Iranian people and the whole world so that the end of this suspect regime will draw nearer, God willing. The official spokesman stressed that Iraq reserves the right to reply to the Tehran rulers' crimes in the appropriate manner and at the proper time.

[Dated] 26 November 1986

AL-THAWRAH Reacts to Shamir 'Admission' on Arms

JN271332 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1010 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Nov (INA) — The Iraqi newspaper *Al-Thawrah* has said that Zionist enemy Prime Minister Shamir's admission about extending arms to Iran explains the Zionist-imperialist objectives behind the perpetuation of the war and the Iranian regime's insistence on its continuation.

In its editorial today entitled "What After Admission," the paper, the mouthpiece of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, asserted that Shamir's statements revealed to everyone that the Iranian and Zionist aggressions against the Arab nation are two faces of the same conspiratorial scheme. Moreover, these statements merely bestowed an official nature and stand on a reality that has existed for years.

The paper added that the Iraqi leadership knew from the very beginning that the Iranian regime had suspect links with the Zionist entity and continually warned of the need to realize the dangers posed to the Arab homeland by the Khomeyniite-Zionist alliance. The paper said: We were absolutely certain about this matter even before Shamir admitted that Israel supplied Khomeyni's Iran with arms. Moreover, Israel extended other forms of direct military aid to Iran and numerous irrefutable pieces of evidence have been revealed on the international level proving that the Khomeyni regime has received Zionist arms shipments since the beginning of the war and until now. The paper added that Shamir's admission today widely exposes the truth about the suspect Iranian regime which is colluding with Zionism and imperialism against the Arab homeland and the Islamic world. Moreover, Shamir's admission adds to tangible pieces of evidence that Iran's rulers are not only charlatans and jugglers but are also hypocrites who boast of and trade with false slogans.

Concluding, the paper said the Iranian regime, which deals and cooperates on a large scale with Zionism and world imperialism, can only be an enemy of the Arab nation and of the causes of its struggle and can never be an ally of the Arabs or play a strategic role in their struggle, as some of those with Arab identity seek to depict.

'Direct' Iran-Israel Cooperation Seen

JN280900 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0730 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Nov (INA) — The newspaper *Al-Jumhuriyah* has affirmed that cooperation between the Iranian rulers and the Zionist entity is no accident, but is, rather, a continuous relationship with successive deals which began since the first days of the war and has continued until now.

In an editorial today, the paper says this cooperation is taking place with full knowledge of the Iranian regime and with the approval of all its leaders, headed by Khomeyni. This cooperation, the paper adds, is not taking place through a third party acting as mediator between the Zionist entity and the Iranian regime, but is a direct cooperation between them.

Al-Jumhuriyah adds it is the Zionist entity which acts as mediator between the Iranian regime and any third party seeking to cooperate with Iran, as happened in the U.S.-Zionist deal. The paper also says that the supply of arms to Iran is no longer done through crooked, intricate ways and via airports and ports of other countries, but is taking place directly between Elat and Bandar-e 'Abbas ports.

President Saddam Husayn Receives Yasir 'Arafat

JN271408 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1300 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] President Saddam Husayn has received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. He was briefed on the recent developments in Lebanon, the repeated attacks of the Iranian regime's agents and the Zionist entity's allies against the Palestinian camps, and the consequent killing of the sons of the Palestinian people.

President Saddam Husayn expressed Iraq's denunciation of these crimes which coincide with the Iranian regime's crimes and aggression against Iraq and the Arab Gulf region. He also expressed Iraq's solidarity with its Palestinian brothers regarding the aggressions against them.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed the recent developments in the scandal involving the relations among the Iranian regime, the Zionist entity, and the United States. They also reviewed what the Palestinian people are being exposed to in Lebanon and discussed the Arab situation in general.

Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, attended the meeting.

'Arafat Gives News Conference

JN271711 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Nov (INA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has urged the Syrian and Libyan regimes to break their silence after the relations among the Iranian regime, the Zionist entity, and the United States have been revealed.

'Arafat, who was speaking at a news conference here today, wondered about these regimes' silence on this issue. He pointed out that the regimes of Al-Asad and Al-Qadhdhafi are the ones who speak the most about Arabism and fateful issues, and wondered what they will say after the revelations about relations among Tehran, Tel Aviv, and Washington.

The PLO Executive Committee chairman expressed appreciation for Iraq's support for the Palestinian people's struggle. He said that Iraq has placed and is continuing to place all its potential at the disposal of the PLO although it is having to face a fierce Zionist-imperialist-Iranian aggression.

'Arafat spoke about the aggression against the Palestinian resistance factions in southern Lebanon. He said that this aggression by the Israeli forces, the agent Amal gangs, and the Syrian regime's intelligence could be the beginning of a large-scale aggression against the Palestinian forces in southern Lebanon.

Peshmergas Claim Control of Zakhu District

NC281031 Istanbul TERCUMAN in Turkish 24 Nov 86 p 9

[Text] Diyarbakir, (Tercuman) — A steady escalation has been reported in the clashes taking place in northern Iraq between the

Iraqi Armed Forces and the Kurdish Peshmergas. Reports also indicate that the Zakhu District in northern Iraq, which is only 3 km from the Turkish border, has been captured by the Peshmergas.

In a report aired yesterday morning, the clandestine radio called the "Voice of Kurdistan," which can be monitored from Turkey's border regions, said that the Peshmergas had established superiority in the week-long clashes in the region and brought the Zakhu District under their control. The radio also reported that 20 Iraqi troops were killed in a single day. However, it declined to give figures on the Peshmergas' casualties.

The clandestine radio claimed that the Peshmergas had established control of the transit highway that runs through Zakhu District and killed 150 Iraqi troops during the week's clashes. It also claimed that an ammunition depot near the town of Zakhu had been destroyed.

Contrary to the claims put forward by the Kurdish Peshmergas, traffic at the Habur border crossing has not been disrupted. However, TIR [Transit Highway International] drivers arriving from Iraq have said that violent clashes were taking place in the Zakhu region.

Albania's Alia Congratulated on National Day

JN271128 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0840 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Nov (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has sent a congratulatory cable to Ramiz Alia, chairman of the Presidium of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, on his country's national day. The congratulatory cable reads: On the occasion of your country's national day, we are pleased to send to your excellency, on behalf of Iraq and in our own name, our congratulations wishing you good health and happiness and your people further progress and prosperity.

Saddam Husayn Receives Saudi Envoy, Message

JN271818 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1710 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Nov (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has received Saudi Ambassador in Baghdad Tirad 'Abdallah al-Harithi who conveyed a verbal message to President Saddam Husayn from his brother Saudi King Fahd. The message deals with relations between the two fraternal countries.

Ramadan Leaves for Official Visit to CSSR

JN271425 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1300 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, left Baghdad today for Prague on an official visit of several days to the CSSR.

In a statement to INA, Ramadan said that he will hold talks with CSSR officials on economic, trade, and industrial relations between the two countries.

This visit is taking place at the invitation of CSSR Premier Lubomir Strougal and is aimed at promoting bilateral cooperation in the economic, trade, technical, and scientific fields. The Iraqi delegation comprises Subhi Yasin, minister of industry and minerals and head of the Iraqi side to the CSSR-Iraqi joint committee for economic, technical, and scientific cooperation, and the committee members.

Press Condemns U.S. Arms Supplies to Iran

U.S. Blamed For Raid on UAE

JN261121 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 26 Nov 86 pp 1, 2!

[Editorial: "The Deal and Its Dangerous Repercussions"]

[Text] The dangerous consequences of the U.S. arms deal with Tehran on the Gulf and the region are being revealed day after day. The Iranian missile attack yesterday on the UAE Abu al-Bukhush oil installations and its implication that the war is expanding represent an early result of this deal, although its executors in Washington claimed it would help bring about a peaceful solution to the Iraq-Iran war, which has been raging for over 6 years.

Instead of resorting to peace and negotiations to end the bloodshed, the rulers of Tehran are escalating their aggression against the fraternal people of Iraq and are directing their attacks against innocent civilians and civilian installations far from the front in an extremely savage way.

Undoubtedly, the recently disclosed reports on the weapons and hardware flowing into Iran from U.S. and other sources are a direct instigation for the rulers of Tehran to escalate their aggression against the courageous people and to expand this aggression to include other parts of the Arabian Gulf.

From this premise, we regard Iran's escalation against the Iraqi people, land, and entity a natural outcome of the policy adopted by the U.S. government to appease the rulers of a country branded by certain U.S. public opinion circles as a terrorist country and a source of world terrorism.

Therefore, while confident that the courage of the Iraqis and their high state of alertness will prevent the Tehran rulers from attaining any gains as a result of the recent flow of military hardware and weapons to them, we ask that the United States do whatever it can to correct its fatal mistake of supplying the Iranians with what enables them to perpetuate and prolong the war. This matter contravenes the declared U.S. commitments and the responsibilities of a superpower like the United States, which should preserve security and peace in the region rather than fan the war in the Gulf region and other parts of the world.

Poindexter 'Sacrifice' Viewed

JN261332 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 26 Nov 86 pp 1, 17

[Editorial: "The Star and Maintaining a Minimum Relationship"]

[Text] When the Watergate scandal shook the U.S. White House, President Nixon could neither contain it nor control the scandal's dimensions, although he — as we know — was an outstanding U.S. lawyer and a prominent spokesman of the principle of controlling issues — whether domestic or foreign — through predefined ideas. Therefore, Nixon was the only one who paid the price of the scandal that led to his denunciation. It seems that Nixon's failure to evade the charges leveled at him allowed President Reagan to benefit from this by leveling charges regarding the U.S.-Iranian scandal at some of those who work with him to avoid getting himself burned by the "burning" fire of the scandal.

Poindexter's dismissal was expected after the scandal became an official and even public priority. Poindexter is believed to be a carefully chosen sacrifice for the master of the White House. Others believe the United States decided — through one of the most important engineers of its policy — not to repeat the outcome of the "Watergate" scandal, which resulted in the dismissal of the president from his post.

Poindexter packed his bags about a week ago after being told about the decision taken by the engineers of U.S. policy with regard to public needs, national principles, and the need to avoid shaking the White House. Maintaining President Reagan in his post implies maintaining U.S. prestige and the dignity of the officials in the eyes of the U.S. people.

The U.S. people, who look in private and in public for a star that brightens their life, will resort to "revenge" if this star does not continue its permanent glittering. That is why it was decided to keep the star of President Reagan in the U.S. sky after its rays were partially blocked by starlets that were found later to be a Khomeyni-Israeli shadow that sneaked into the White House. Poindexter was another shadow that was removed from the way of the greater star. This cannot be attributed to fear of the "Khomeyni shade" but to preserving its own internal and external glittering.

Although Nixon could not escape the grip of the first scandal; Reagan seems to have succeeded in containing the tempest that could have undermined his presidential post. He succeeded at the last moment in controlling the situation between Tehran and Washington when he stopped the U.S. Hercules plane deal yesterday. But, will Reagan be able to maintain a minimum level of relationship?

Arms Part of 'Evil Schemes'

JN270840 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 27 Nov 86 pp 1, 20

[Editorial: "The Plot of Settling Accounts With Arab Oil"]

[Text] The United States cannot wash its hands of the blood of the scores of victims of the Iranian missile that hit Baghdad yesterday. The United States can never claim to be totally divorced from the expansion of the Iraqi-Iranian war on which Iran embarked on the day before yesterday by bombing the Abu al-Bukhush oilfield in the UAE.

These two serious incidents are among the results of the United States' fanning of the flames of the war, regardless of the source of the missile or the place it was manufactured and regardless of the casualties of the Iranian attack on the UAE oilfield.

The U.S. arming of Iran has been and continues to be the green light the United States has given to Iran to escalate and expand the war and multiply its victims and woes. Such unethical encouragement has led to the serious developments that have occurred so far. These signs indicate that the objectives of the U.S. involvement in the Iraqi-Iranian war go far beyond the release of American hostages held in Lebanon and that these objectives include dividing control over the Gulf region, separating it from the Arab body, changing the map of the area, and depriving the Arab nation of its principal source of energy.

Such a deliberate involvement represents the malicious U.S. response to the Arab oil weapon, which upset the balance in 1973. The aim appears to be clear now; namely, to totally deprive Arabs of the oil weapon by controlling its sources. The Iraqi- Iranian war is the means chosen by the U.S. Government to achieve its evil objective.

In light of such a picture the magnitude of the plot becomes clear. Thus, it is clear that the decision to send U.S. arms to Iran was not accidental but an essential part of U.S. strategy in the area and a translation of the intentions it harbors against the Arabs.

Therefore, there is a need for better Arab understanding of the plot and for tackling the situation in a manner that does not discount the U.S. role and its aims and does not ignore the trap set for Arabs by the plot's planners and executors. All this requires a clear Arab view of what must be done and a commitment to organized and unified action to stave off the threat to all Arabs and to foil the evil schemes designed to exercise hegemony over the Gulf region, change the balance in the region, and settle accounts with Arab oil.

AL-DUSTUR Analyzes Israeli Role

JN270941 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 27 Nov 86 pp 1, 21

[Editorial: "Israel in the Devil's Role"]

[Text] Following Israel's deafening silence in the past few days on what was being broadcast and published by U.S. sources on the Israeli role in the secret arms deal with Iran, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's admission that Israel shipped U.S. arms to Iran at Washington's request reveals the dirtiest role that can be played by an arms broker in modern times.

Israel was not content with transporting U.S. arms to Iran — with all the destruction it entails for the Gulf region and the fanning of the flames of the war — or with carrying out a simple mediation role between Tehran and Washington, but has also, with the admission of U.S. officials, conveyed the money received from these weapons from Tehran to the contras fighting the Nicaraguan Government, which is a violation of U.S. law and an attempt to deceive the U.S. Congress.

In view of such a role — which some Israeli papers described as more akin to the role of the devil than to the role of an arms merchant — there is no longer any doubt about Israel's direct involvement in a war that is exhausting the resources of Iraq and Iran, particularly as the official Israeli admission, which has come several years late, was made by the Israeli prime minister, who was compelled to publicly admit Israel was playing such a dirty role.

Consequently, following the revelation of all these exciting details about the Iranian-U.S.-Israeli relationship, Arabs cannot continue to maintain their present stance of ignoring the situation or pretending not to know about it, as though the Israeli role were merely an illusion not requiring a reconsideration of their traditional stands in light of the fact Israel has become a direct party in the war against Iraq.

While we firmly believe that the dirty Israeli role in the Iraqi-Iranian war accompanied all the developments of the war throughout the past years and that its exposure in this manner does not astonish or surprise us, we hope the events being revealed in both the United States and Israel will persuade all Arabs that Iraq is fighting a legitimate defensive war and that its valiant stand deserves Arab support and backing.

Dubin Calls for Action To Stop Jerusalem Unrest

JN261855 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Amman — Occupied Territories Affairs Minister Marwan Dudin has stated the following:

The government is following the current spiteful aggressions being committed by Jewish settlers against our citizens in holy Jerusalem with great concern. These settlers attack peaceful citizens, damage their property, storm their houses, provoke them, beat them, and terrorize them by chanting racist and threatening slogans during demonstrations staged by several groups of these Jewish settlers in front of the Israeli occupation authorities.

Although the current incidents in Jerusalem are part of our people's sufferings in the occupied land and part of the threats and repression against our people as a result of the occupation authorities' disregard for these Jewish settlers' unjust practices; and although these authorities permit the settlers to act in accordance with their whims and support these fanatic groups' ideas, which call for the occupation of all the Arab lands and the expulsion of the Arab Palestinian inhabitants to replace them with Jewish settlers, the current large-scale incidents in holy Jerusalam are serious, especially since they shock every Arab and Muslim and harm their dignity in one of their holiest shrines.

In light of this deteriorating situation, we urge the international community to shoulder its responsibilities and take serious steps to stop these aggressive actions by the Jewish settlers, who storm houses, humiliate peaceful citizens, and commit aggressions against their lives and property in holy Jerusalem. The government has begun to hold contacts with the fraternal and friendly countries as well as with the Arab and international bodies to explain the dimensions of these painful incidents in Jerusalem, to show their danger, and to exert every effort to confront them with full strength and resolve.

Israeli Planes Raid Areas Near Sidon 27 Nov

NC271440 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1400 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Israeli warplanes, flying consecutive missions, raided the areas of 'Ayn al-Dilb, Al-Qurayyah, Al-Miyah Wa Miyah, Jabal al-Lawz, and the building housing the Palestinian radio station east of Sidon at 1415 this afternoon. The warplanes met intensive antiaircraft fire. Two Palestinians were wounded and transferred to the Hammud Hospital in Sidon.

This afternoon, a military spokesman for the martyr Ma'ruf Sa'd Forces of the Popular Liberation Army declared that artillery emplacements belonging to the Zionist enemy and his agents in Jabal Safi have been shelling the army's positions in Lib'a, 'Ayn al-Mir, and Al-Salhiyah since this morning. These emplacements are also firing indiscriminately at areas where clashes are taking place between Palestinians and Amal members in an attempt to intensify the fighting. Seven Israeli naval units have been cruising off the Sidon coast since 1100.

Amal Claims To Be Target

NC271408 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1328 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Information about the Israeli air strike against Sidon has now been pieced together. An Amal security source has issued a statement, saying: At a time when Amal Movement fighters have recaptured their positions in Maghdushah and thwarted the plot to turn the south into a new passageway for aggression, Israel, in an attempt to utilize its tools to ignite disputes and in harmony with the pro-'Arafat scheme, used its aircraft to strafe Amal positions. Our fighters engaged the enemy aircraft with the appropriate weapons and prevented them from realizing their objectives.

The source added: It is not surprising for the Israeli aircraft to carry out mock raids against Palestinian positions at the same time. Such raids have been previously agreed upon by the two sides. The source affirmed: We have issued repeated warnings against this plot and its expansion out of a desire to rob Israel of an excuse to exploit bleeding wounds. But these capitulationist rifles, defeated without fighting Israel, are now inviting this country to return anew and destroy the resisting rifles. This would enable the isolationists to work out an agreement worse than that of 17 May.

The Israeli jets also strafed Amal positions in Maghdushah and Al-Ghaziyah, leaving two fighters dead and five others wounded.

Israelis Reinforce Positions

NC280825 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Excerpt] The Israeli enemy expanded his acts of aggression on Lebanese territory yesterday, raiding areas east of Sidon while the Amal Movement's fighters were confronting Palestinian attempts to expand outside their camps in Sidon. [passage omitted]

It has been reported that some 25 people were killed or wounded in the raid. The Israeli aircraft dropped time bombs that detonated 15 minutes after they landed.

This Israeli aggression was accompanied by an increase in Israeli concentrations inside the occupied area, particularly in eastern Al-Biqa', where intensive Israeli military movements have taken place. It has been reported that the occupation forces have strengthened their infantry and mechanized units in positions on the frontline from Kafr Huna in the west to Tillal al-Dahr in the east. The new forces brought to these positions came via the road through Al-Mtullah, the Al-Dardarah plain, the Ibil al-Saqy plain, and the Burghuz triangle under a stringent security escort.

According to security reports from the occupied area, the positions held by the [Lahd] militia have been reinforced with both vehicles and men, especially in the Al-Surayrah triangle and Burhuz. The occupation forces and Lahd's militia have taken strict security measures in the last few hours at the crossing point in Tallat Zumrayya, in the area of Hasbayya. Israeli intelligence men and Lahd militiamen are searching all cars heading towards the occupied territory. The Israelis have placed concrete barriers and barbed wire in the middle of the road and established earth barricades around the checkpoints.

Caller Claims 6 Israelis Killed by Bomb

NC281234 Paris AFP in English 1227 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Beirut, Nov 28 (AFP) — Six Israeli soldiers were killed and three others were wounded in a bomb attack in the Israeli "security zone" in southern Lebanon early Friday, a spokesman purporting to be from a fundamentalist group said in a call here.

A telephone caller to *Agence France-Presse*, saying he represented the "Islamic Resistance," said its members had set off a bomb as an Israeli patrol passed on a road near Marj 'Uyun, the headquarters of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia. A tank and troop transporter were destroyed, the caller added.

There has been no independent confirmation of the report.

Junblatt Holds News Conference on Camps War

NC261550 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1236 GMT 26 Nov 86

[News conference by Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt at his home in Beirut on 26 November — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Junblatt] Let us discuss the crux of the camps war issue, or rather, the current situation resulting from the camps war. We will say this once and for all and we will say it clearly and frankly: We respect the rights of the Palestinians living in Lebanon, and we believe all civil rights should be extended to them except, of course, the right to citizenship, which would be a serious matter and would involve us in the settlement issue. Meanwhile, Lebanese laws should apply to the Palestinians, and the Palestinians are asked to respect Lebanese laws.

As for the Palestinian rifle, we do not now and never will deny that the Palestinian rifle deserves credit for fighting Israel and the Lebanese Phalangists and for supporting the Lebanese national cause. However, we demand, and it is our right as Lebanese nationalist forces to do so, that the Palestinian organizations define the role of the Palestinian rifle in Lebanon at the present time. Let us address this issue. Let us discuss this matter objectively with all the organizations concerned. We must know the use to which this rifle is to be put, its role in the south and elsewhere, and its place in a unified Arab strategy. The place to make this decisions should be Damascus.

If the Cairo Agreement is useful, then let us — we, Nabih Birri, and the Palestinians — all agree. And if the Cairo Agreement is no longer of any value, then let us abolish or amend it and proceed to draw up a new agreement. However, we must abandon one-upmanship. The events that have occurred in East Sidon, Maghdushah, Al-Shawakir, and Burj al-Barajinah, when two comrades from the Amal Movement were killed, are grave and regrettable. If the war were to continue, especially in the south, they could draw us into a new 17 May agreement or something even worse. This could — indeed, would — give Israel an excuse to invade the south once again. We support the implementation of the Damascus agreements in Al-Rashidiyah, Burj al-Barajinah, and Sidon. We are opposed to Palestinian expansion at any price. We support the definition of the Palestinian rifle's role in Lebanon. If the conflict continues like this, it will be destructive for all of us. The use of Maghdushah as a bargaining chip in a dialogue in Moscow — and a dialogue is taking place in Moscow — so the positions of some of the parties to this dialogue may be strengthened must be rejected outright. We say no to one-upmanship on Lebanese soil. This represents a general assessment of the issue of the Palestinian war, the camps war. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] Concerning the camps war, is there any development [words indistinct]?

[Junblatt] I have indicated broad outlines. If the Cairo Agreement is still appropriate, we have no objection, provided there is agreement among the Lebanese, the nationalist forces, the Palestinians, and the Syrians. And if the Cairo Agreement is to be amended or abolished, we will be ready. On this occasion let me remind you that the Cairo Agreement was signed by a representative of the Phalangists, perhaps Pierre al-Jumayyil or one of his associates. Perhaps Raymond Iddah was the only person who could take a long-term view.

[Correspondent] [Question indistinct]

[Junblatt] I am just giving broad outlines. However, if this war continues it will be destructive to all.

[Correspondent] [Question indistinct]

[Junblatt] We are against the expansion on the political level, and I hope they will not force us to be militarily opposed to it as well. We are politically opposed to the expansion, and if we are forced or if they continue to pressure us we will intervene militarily. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] The regime claims that the economic situation can only be solved through the Council of Ministers.

[Junblatt] This is political blackmail. We know what their game is. They want us to go up there to Baʻabda for a meeting. We will not go. I will never go there, not in a 1,000 years. We have tried Amin al-Jumayyil in the past, and he is not interested in giving up (?this post). What is really dangerous is the question of the renewal of his term of office. This person is thinking of renewing it. This will leave us trapped, as happened in the case of [former president] Shamʻun, but this time it would be even more serious.

[Correspondent] [Question indistinct]

[Junblatt] We support the dialogue if it leads to positive results. It was not the nationalist team that obstructed the dialogue.

[Correspondent] Some parties have said a draft solution for the camps war has been agreed upon in Damascus. Is this true?

[Junblatt] We discussed the matter in general terms in Damascus, but then certain positions became clear. We were meeting with members of the Palestinian National Salvation Front [PSNF] when the shelling of the southern suburb of Beirut from the mountain began. This was deplorable and pointless. I was forced to confiscate some Palestinian weapons, and I hope the brothers will not put me into the position of having to take further measures.

[Correspondent] What is required of the PNSF?

[Junblatt] A clear-cut and positive political stand condemning ʻArafat's position and the Palestinian expansion into both Sidon and Beirut. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] Regarding the ongoing meetings in Damascus [words indistinct].

[Junblatt] The meetings are continuing, and I hope the conferees can quickly reach decisions so that Palestinian and Lebanese blood may be spared and so that we can confront Israel in the south and the Phalangists in the north.

[Correspondent] Who is responsible for the failure to reach a solution to the camps war?

[Junblatt] I have said previously that there had been a degree of one-upmanship during the dialogue in Moscow between Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] and Dr George Habash. We respect Dr Habash's opinion, though we sometimes disagree with him. I remember that Kamal Junblatt was the first to condemn hijackings in 1969 and 1970. Some of the parties to the dialogue in Moscow, in order to stregthen their position therein, instigated the situation in Maghdushah. This is unnecessary, and I really do not see the connection. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] You were the first to say there would be no solution so long as this regime remains in power. Do you still believe this?

[Junblatt] I was the first to say this, prior to the Lausanne conference, I think. At the time I said that Amin al-Jumayyil must first be removed if we were to reach a nationalist solution in Lebanon. They did not believe me, and instead of removing al-Jumayyil, we became his ministers. Unfortunately. I repeat this premise again now, and I will continue to repeat it.

[Correspondent] Walid Bey, one would get the impression that you have given up hope, but are there certain measures that must be taken to coordinate at the nationalist level?

[Junblatt] I set policies, and the nationalist arena is there for all. I have no problem with Nabih Birri; I am addressing the Islamic grouping; and I have no problem with the [nationalist] parties. The only point of weakness is the Palestinian issue. To overcome this impasse the Palestinian brothers must come to discuss this issue, for the sake of Palestinian and Lebanese interests. I see no benefit from this war. Israel is waiting; all it needs is an excuse and it will invade. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] [Question indistinct]

[Junblatt] If my friend Comrade Nabih Birri approves of a civilian administration in Beirut, I have no objection. But he has to approve it first.

[Correspondent] Just Beirut, or all areas?

[Junblatt] I had Beirut, the mountain, and Sidon in mind. They are inseparable. If he approves, I have no objection. But this issue must be studied first. [passage omitted]

Sa'adah Discusses Party, Relations With Syria

JN270658 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1800 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Interview with Phalangist Party leader George Sa'adah by Radio Monte Carlo correspondent Rawwad Tarabayy in Paris — date not given]

[Text] [Tarabayy] Dr George Sa'adah, today marks the 50th anniversary of the Phalangist Party with the absence of founder Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil. Where does the party stand today in the absence of its founder and under your chairmanship?

[Sa'adah] This question does not surprise me because it is raised even by some Phalangist cadres. Some people believe Pierre al-Jumayyil, who embodied the Phalangist Party throughout its stgruggle, established this party for himself only. Others also believed the party would end with the death of Pierre al-Jumayyil. Time proved this question was mere imagination. The Phalangist Party has passed through stages, and Pierre al-Jumayyil, who, as I have said, embodied the party's struggle for 48 years, worked for the continuation of this party. The party passed a democratic test during the recent elections, which resulted in the victory of a new leadership. The Phalangist Party today will return to its roots.

[Tarabayy] Dr Sa'adah, what is the Phalangist Party's plan for solving the political, social, and economic crisis in Lebanon?

[Sa'adah] The Phalangist Party was established to represent the people's conscience. The history of this party shows it rebelled against what might harm the people's interests. The Party called for many strikes because the price of electricity was raised and the price of bread was changed. When the price of ice was raised in the past, the Phalangists went into the streets and sold ice.

Today we are facing a strangling economic crisis and the party should act. It has acted and formed many committees to tackle the issue of high prices, as well as economic and social issues in general. We formed a committee to solve the problem of education costs; another committee to solve the problem of costs of medication and hospitalization; another committee to solve the problem of housing; and another committee to solve the problem of food prices. In forming each committee, we sought help from the public and from private experts, particularly from general trade unions.

In our recent conference held in [words indistinct], we devoted a session to discussing economic, financial, and social issues. The conference issued resolutions that we will implement. We do not have the power, but we can discuss issues, make suggestions, and use legitimate pressures to carry out what we have decided.

[Tarabayy] But Dr Sa'adah, you are a ruling party. Do you not think so?

[Sa'adah] There is a difference between the Phalangist Party, as a ruling party, and a Phalangist, as a ruler. The system followed in Lebanon is not a party system. In some countries it is the party which achieves power, but in Lebanon a party member achieves power, not the party itself.

[Tarabayy] Dr Sa'adah, Syrian-Lebanese relations remain the focus of talks, particularly in the Phalangist Party. How do you view future relations in light of the recent resolutions of the party conference?

[Sa'adah] The recent resolutions adopted by the party conference regarding this and other issues were clear and frank. Since its establishment in 1936, the Phalangist Party has called for creating relations between Lebanon and Arab countries, particularly Syria. As of 1974, when the General Secretariat for Arab Affairs was established, we moved toward Arab countries and our first visit was to Syria. Many meetings were then held with senior Syrian officials. These relations sometimes faced crises, but they never ceased.

The issue presented today is the issue of distinguished relations between Lebanon and Syria. In a previous statement, I said: I do not pause at words and expressions, but at the content. Some Lebanese call for distinguished relations with Syria. They know that this term was mentioned in the tripartite agreement. The group which rejects distinguished relations with Syria does not reject excellent, neighborly, and friendly relations. When there is an emphasis on this expression, in particular, this means what is presented is distinguished relations as defined in the tripartite agreement.

What is required, and what we have recently decided, is that there should be relations between Lebanon and Syria, but we have to differentiate between relations of friendship and good-neighborliness and the presence of hegemony. Our recent decision was that there should be relations between Lebanon and Syria — relations which must be defined through contacts between the two states, not between a state and a group of people. The contacts must be held between the two states to maintain Lebanon's independence, sovereignty, and dignity, as well as the common interests of both states.

Amal's 'Akif Haydar Holds News Conference

NC261513 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] At a news conference this afternoon, Colonel 'Akif Haydar, deputy leader of the Amal Movement, asserted that the Amal Movement has adhered and still adheres to the Damascus Agreement on the Palestinian camps. However, it is the Palestinians who have violated this agreement by deploying outside their camps and opening up new military fronts. The fighting in Maghdushah, Sabra, Shatila, and Burj al-Barajinah indicates that the Palestinians are determined to impose a military and political status that has no connection, either directly or indirectly, with the situation at the Al-Rashidiyah camp. The Palestinians want to settle in Lebanon for good. According to the least harmful scenario, they aim to control Lebanese politics and the resistance's road to the south.

Col Haydar described what is happening as an attempt to take the Palestinian political will out of its deep freeze and have it replace Lebanese national will, controlling it as happened before 1982.

Col Haydar said: The southern suburb [of Beirut] and southern Lebanon are under military and economic siege. The real siege is against our people, not against the Palestinian camps. He added: The Amal Movement considers the Palestinians, in all their factions, one entity.

Col Haydar called on the Palestinians to withdraw to the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp immediately and without preconditions. He also called on them to hand over the murderers and criminals of the Al-Shawakir and Burj al-Barajinah operations and those who assassinated prisoners of war in Maghdushah. Afterward, agreements can be implemented, he said, and we can consider with Islamic and national forces ways to ensure the safety of the camps, our people, and, more importantly, the national resistance.

Col Haydar praised the stand declared by Minister Walid Junblatt at his news conference. He said it is also the Amal Movement's stand.

Regarding the military situation, he explained that three-quarters of Maghdushah is under the control of the Amal Movement and the other quarter under the Palestinians, with battles still raging.

Black September Warns Against Invasion of Camps

NC270722 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] The Black September organization issued a warning this morning against any invasion of the Palestinian camps in Lebanon. A spokesman for the organization said the fate of anyone who carries out such an invasion will be similar to that of Wasfi al-Tall [Jordanian prime minister assassinated in Cairo in 1971]. The organization also addressed a warning to [Syrian Vice President] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

New Group Attacks Amal, 6th Brigade in Beirut

NC272049 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Gunmen riding in a Mercedes have fired rockets at a position held by Amal and 6th Brigade personnel in Tallat al-Khayyat near the Channel 7 television building. The rockets caused great material damage.

An anonymous caller phoned us at 2000 and claimed to speak on behalf of the Sacred Revenge Organization [Munazzamat al-Tha'r al-Muqaddas], claiming that organization's responsibility for the firing on the Amal and 6th Brigade position. The caller said: This operations is in retaliation for the violation of the sanctity of Muslims' homes and the siege of the Palestinians by Amal and the 6th Brigade, with Syrian assistance.

Syrian Trucks, Tanks Seen in Druze Mountain Area

NC271758 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] According to information available to Voice of Lebanon, 70 Syrian trucks and tanks have been seen parked between Dayr al-Qamar and 'Ayn Darah, awaiting orders.

Libya's Jallud in Damascus for Meetings

Talks With Ba'th Official

JN262054 Damascus Television Service in Arabic
1830 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th party, received Brother 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of Libya's 1 September Revolution Command, this evening. During the meeting, the talks revolved around the most important developments in the Arab arena and issues of common interest to both countries.The talks also dealt with the Arab revolutionary forces' role and responsibilities in confronting the imperialist-Zionist scheme led by the United States to strike at Syria and destroy its steadfastness as a base for the Arab struggle against attempts to impose capitulation on the Arab nation and to liquidate the central Arab question. The talks also dealt with the importance of enhancing the resources of those forces and the abilitiy of the Arab masses to thwart that scheme and to foil Britain's current campaign against Syria and the Arab masses throughout the Arab world.

Agreement on Lebanon Reached

LD262208 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 26

[Text] JANA has learned that an agreement was reached in Damascus today between the Palestinian organizations and the Lebanese nationalist forces on carrying out a simultaneous withdrawal from the strategic town of Maghdushah, which overlooks the Palestinian camp Ayn al-Hulwah in southern Lebanon and which has witnessed over the past 2 days fierce battles between the gangs of the Shi'ite despair movement and the defenders of the Palestinian camp. This agreement represents the most prominent result of the intensive contacts betweenStaff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud and Syrian vice president, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam with the various organizations of the Palestinian and Lebanese forces over the past 2 days. JANA has also learned that agreement was reached at these meetings on lifting the siege on the Burj al-Barajinah and Shatila Palestinian camps south of the Lebanese capital, Beirut. Staff Maj 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud also met Brother 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party in the Syrian Arab Republic today in Damascus.

Chairs Pan-Arab Command Meeting

LD272058 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic
1330 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] The General Secretariat of the Pan-Arab Command of the Arab Revolutionary Forces held an emergency meeting this morning under the chairmanship of Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud, the secretary general. The secretariat devotes itself to the study of the imperialist aggression staged by the imperialist and Zionist circles against fraternal Syria in preparation for military aggression against it.

The secretariat is studying practical measures for replying to the repeated aggressions aimed at the existence of the Arab nation, such as the aggression against the Great Jamahiriyah, as the Arab nations stood watching.

Staff Maj 'Abd al-Salam Jallud spoke at the beginning of the meeting about the imperialist conspiracy to which Syria is subjected and which presently is taking the form of political, economic, and psychological attack. He pointed out that the cause of this attack is not the allegation of terrorism, but is Syria's steadfastness in the face of imperialist plans to force Arab capitulation. The attack is also due to Syria's being the fundamental material base for the legitimate Arab struggle for regaining usurped rights and the liberation of the occupied land.

He stressed that the enemies — at the forefront of which is the United States — are not aiming only at Libya or Syria, as Arab reactionaries who are naive and who look only at appearances may think, but they also seek the physical liquidation of the Arab nation country by country.

He pointed out the reactionaries' as well as capitulationists' cries of wolf in the Arab homeland regarding what they call the United States credibility being lost and the dangers this fact might create vis-a-vis Arab trust in the United States. He added that the aforementioned people do not talk about such credibility and trust when it comes to the strategic alliance between the United States and the Zionist enemy, as well as the latter's participation in the Star Wars program, the barbarous and wanton aggression against the Great Jamahiriyah, the destruction of Lebanon, the raid on Tunis, and the destruction of the Iraqi nuclear reactor — as if all that is not enough to mar what they call the United States credibility and what they have termed as Arab trust in the United States.

Staff Maj Brother Jallud warned that the deteriorating Arab reality compels the dynamic forces of the Arab nation to rise to the occasion and prove equal to the task. He described the birth of the Pan-Arab Command of the Arab Forces as an historical shift that must be built upon scientific and revolutionary bases in order to transform our practices and develop our capabilities until we triumph over our enemies.

He pointed out that the pan-Arab uprising, which was manifested in Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, and Sudan, needs such a pan-Arab action, which might begin small and then grow bigger and bigger like all other movements that have changed the course of history. We are therfore obligated to prevent such an uprising from being usurped or distorted.

He concluded by pointing out that the Arab struggling masses confronting the Zionist enemy have acquired immunity and sturdiness to confront any aggression that imperialism might launch against Syria.

Saudi Interior Minister Arrives in Damascus

JN261818 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and his delegation arrived in Damascus this afternoon on a visit to Syria that will last several days. Interior Minister Muhammad Ghabbash and the Saudi ambassador and embassy staff headed those who received the Saudi minister at Damascus International Airport.

Prince Nayif made a statement to the SANA correspondent in which he greeted President al-Asad and the fraternal Syrian Arab people, emphasizing the sincerest fraternal feelings of the Saudi king, government, and people for the Syrian president, government, and people.

Prince Nayif pointed out that this visit is taking place at the invitation of Interior Minister Muhammad Ghabbash and added that it will give him the chance to hold talks on joint Arab security, especially since this visit is taking place prior to the fifth session of Arab interior ministers in Tunis next week. He emphasized the identical stands on the various issues on this session's agenda.

Concluding, Prince Nayif said: I thank the interior minister, who enabled me to visit fraternal Syria, a country that is dear to our hearts. I also extend my greetings to President Hafiz al-Asad and convey to him and to the Syrian Arab people the greetings of his brother King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and those of Crown Prince 'Abdallah. I also convey feelings of sincere brotherhood from the Saudi people to their brothers in the Syrian Arab Republic.

Meets With Ghabbash
JN270634 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
2115 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Interior Minister Muhammad Ghabbash today received Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and the delegation accompanying him.

Major General Salah al-Din al-Dabbagh, assistant to the interior minister for police affairs; a Syrian Interior Ministry delegation; and the Saudi ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. They discussed bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest.

A round of talks was then held at the meeting hall in the Interior Ministry between the Syrian Interior Ministry delegation led by Interior Minister Muhammad Ghabbash, and the Saudi delegation led by Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. Members of the two fraternal delegations and the Saudi ambassador in Damascus attended.

At the beginning of the session Muhammad Ghabbash emphasized the need for joint Arab action to serve our Arab causes and nation in various fields — joint Arab action whose bases were laid down by the leaders of the two countries, the struggler leader President Hafiz al-Asad and King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, who are always working for the interests of our two peoples and countries and the Arab nation.

Ghabbash reviewed the intensive imperialist media campaign against the Arab nation, particularly Syria, that took the form of tendentious rumors about so-called terrorism. He emphasized that Syria, under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad, has been and continues to be opposed to terrorism in all its forms, but at the same time Syria strongly supports the national struggle aginst the Zionist occupation of Arab territory.

Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz stressed the need for Arab action in the face of imperialist and conspiratorial onslaughts against the Arab nation and onslaights that seek to control Arab economy. He referred to the disregard of the imperialist and Zionist forces for UN resolutions.

Prince Nayif emphasized the deep ties that link Saudi Arabia and Syria, ties built on a solid foundation. He said the two fraternal countries under the guidance of His Majesty King Fahd and President Hafiz al-Asad are constantly working for the progress and prosperity of our Arab nation and for securing its prestige and warding off all threats and plots by the enemies of the Arab nation.

Received by Prime Minister
JN271338 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1215 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] At 1300 today, Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm received Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi Arabia's interior minister, and his delegation. The meeting was attended by Interior Minister Muhammad Ghabbash and Saudi Ambassador to Syria Ahmad al-Kuhaymi.

Talks revolved around the ongoing fraternal bilateral relations and promoting bilateral cooperation in various fields. Talks also touched on the current situation in the region and issues of joint concern.

Received by Al-'Asad
JN271933 Damascus SANA in Arabic
1855 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Damascus, 27 Nov (SANA) — President Hafiz al-Asad received Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz at 1800 today. Syrian Interior Minister Muhammad Ghabbash and Saudi Ambassador in Damascus Ahmad al-Kuhaymi attended the meeting.

Prince Nayif conveyed to the president Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz's greetings. President Al-Asad asked him to convey his greetings to King Fahd. The talks dealt with the situation in the region and issues of interest to both countries.

Received by Khaddam
JN280704 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
115 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam today received Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. Muhammad Ghabbash, minister of interior; General 'Abdallah Al Shaykh, director of public security in Saudi Arabia; and Ahmad al-Quhaymi, Saudi ambassador in Damascus, attended. They discussed the Arab situation, the situation in the region, and bilateral relations.

Damascus Radio Condemns Oman-UK Exercises

JN271121 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Palestine Broadcast: "Abu Salim's Talk"]

[Text] Peace and God's mercy and blessings be upon you. The British forces in the Sultanate of Oman are preparing for exercises including what they call a landing operation and rapid deployment in the Gulf region. The Americans say they are preparing for a major military action in the area. The Zionists are carrying out exercises and threatening a large- scale attack against Lebanon or Syria. The British forces are receiving cooperation in the area in which these maneuvers are to take place. The forces of the Sultanate of Oman are even holding joint exercises with them. Furthermore, international news agencies have reported that there are 2,000 British military officers in the Sultanate of Oman, holding high ranks in the country's armed forces. This of course runs counter to the Arab stand in the Gulf region, which is that defense of the Gulf region is an an Arab responsibility that no foreign power should be allowed to shoulder.

U.S. forces, according to the U.S. Administration sources, are preparing for a major operation in the area, and specifically in the Gulf region. The U.S. forces are receiving facilities in Egypt and elsewhere, and holding joint exercises with Egyptian and Moroccan forces at the same time as they are staging joint maneuvers with the Zionists. These U.S. moves amount to a defiance of the Arab stand that defense of the Gulf and its security is an exclusively Arab responsibility.

The Zionists are mounting joint military exercises with U.S. forces in the Mediterranean, Sinai, and elsewhere. They also say they intend to attack Lebanon and Syria. Simultaneously, they are pursuing aggression against Lebanese villages and towns as well as Palestinian camps in Lebanon.

U.S. forces are making preparations in many places — at U.S. bases in the area, as well as at certain NATO military bases. The Americans and their Zionist allies, as we know, paved the way for all these things by inventing the story of terrorism, through which they sought to rally world public opinion around the dictum that international terrorism originates in the Arab region, which therefore has to be brought under control or occupied if terror is to be stamped out.

It is quite obvious that all these moves are targetted at Syria and its Arab allies. The goal is to blackmail Syria, subjugate it, or shake its steadfastness and resistance to the Americans, Zionists, and their allies and plans in the Arab world. This is because they know that Syria is not merely the stumbling block to placing the area under their domination, but also the launch pad for Arab confrontation and the linchpin in the movement of Arab masses against them, their presence and plans in the Arab region. In all their moves throughout the Arab world they seek to paralyze any Arab move or stand supportive of Syria to deal with it singly, blackmail it, or subjugate it.

Syria is making provisions for everything, and appreciates its immense responsibilities, and the capabilities and plans of the hostile forces. Syria is monitoring all the movements of these forces and is not about to give in to blackmail or bargin over Arab rights and dignity, or for that matter, its pan-Arab approach. This is because Syria knows that through its stands, it represents the Arab will, and defends the dignity and destiny of the entire Arab nation. Syria knows that its steadfastness means the steadfastness of Arab will and laying pan-Arab foundations for a comprehensive pan-Arab march. The size of the hostile forces, the coordination among them, and their movements show that the adversaries know full well that aggression against Syria will not be a walkover, and that these hostile forces have no confidence in themselves or their ability to foresee the style and consequences of an aggression against Syria.

The entire Arab nation, all Arab masses, all institutions, unions, and other Arab organizations are dutybound to move and take serious, tangible stands by shouldering their pan-Arab responsibilities. It is also incumbent upon the pan-Arab forces that are allied with Syria and that are convinced that Syria is an expression of the Arab will and leader of pan-Arab struggle to end all problems hindering their cohesion, to share in facing the danger and the true and primary enemy, namely the Americans, Zionists, and their allies, and to face the plans for the battle that the hostile powers are preparing for — a battle that possibly will decide the conflict in the area between the Arab nation and its foes.

Radio Warns of PLO Split if PNC Convenes

JN261216 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Palestine broadcast: From "On the Events" program]

[Text] Over the past few weeks, the leadership of the Palestinian right has been trying to convene a PNC session, giving the impression that it has made its decision in this regard and will not await the opinion of those who oppose its policy and the illegitimate PNC, whose current term has expired. No legitimate PNC session can be held unless it is the result of a Palestinian national consensus. Unless all the Palestinian forces approve holding such a session, any unilateral action by any side to hold a PNC session will give the other sides the right and legitimacy to form another PNC. Thus, we will find ourselves facing a veritable split of the PLO into two or three organizations. It will no longer be merely a formal split, as the Palestinian forces have so far maintained the PLO unity despite what happened and regardless of Yasir 'Arafat and his rightist leadership.

No doubt, the Arab brothers are aware of the real dangers inherent in 'Arafat's logic and the trend of his rightist leadership. Thus, the Arab brothers are demanding the restoration of PLO unity as a means of convening the PNC session. The country that would allow holding a forged, dissident PNC with those attending would be held responsible for the split that would follow. The country that would host a PNC session must be morally obliged to ascertain the requirements of preserving the unity of the PLO and its representation and the democratic expression of the Palestinian national will. Any leniency in this issue will reflect negatively on the Arab issues. This means that even if the issue is a regional, Palestinian one, it still has its pan-Arab and international dimensions and has serious effects on the PLO and the Palestinian cause. Therefore, any side which ventures to follow a path that leads to splitting the PLO is carrying out an act of sabotage against the Palestinian cause and is placing itself in a trench hostile to our people and strugglers, thus making the differences between the two side more dangerous.

Therefore, we warn those who are trying to undertake such a step of the consequences that might result from it and hold them completely responsible for such results.

PDRY's Al-'Attas Stops Over in Damascus

JN261655 Damascus SANA in Arabic
1510 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Damascus, 26 Nov (SANA) — Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium, and the delegation accompanying him stopped over at Damascus International Airport en route to his country from Algeria. He was received and seen off at Damascus International Airport by 'Isam al-Na'ib, minister of state for foreign affairs, and a number of Foreign Ministry officials.

Radio Notes FRG Minister's Remarks on Terrorism

JN272158 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
2115 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Bonn — Juergen Moelleman, minister of state in the FRG Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has refused to tie the phenomenon of international terrorism to the Arabs, saying that this phenomenon is not coming from the Middle East but is spreading in Europe, which shelters many terrorists. In a statement published in the newspaper *Al-'Arab* in London today, Moelleman said that his country has so far not found any evidence to show that any Arab state was involved in throwing an explosive device at the headquarters of the Arab-German Friendship Society building. He recalled the contradictory statements by international sides which hastened to accuse the Arab states of terrorist operations. He said: At first it was said that Libya was behind the incident to blow up this building and the nightclub. These accusations were then transferred to Syria without any evidence showing the involvement of either country in the incidents.

In another issue, the FRG Social Democratic Party today described the arms deal between the FRG and the racist regime of South Africa as one of the greatest scandals faced by the German state in modern history. Reports cite the party spokesman as saying that by providing South Africa with arms, the FRG had lost its credibility in the outside world, especially the Third World, and lost its respect in the international community by violating the UN resolutions against providing South Africa with arms.

The chairman of the foreign relations committee in the FRG parliament and member of the ruling Christian Democratic Party has said that if the reports on this deal are ture, the issue will be much more dangerous than a scandal.

Minister Says Arms Sent at Reagan Request

TA270813 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 27 Nov 86 p 2

[Report by Pe'erli Shahar]

[Excerpt] "The arms shipments from Israel to Iran were delivered at the request of U.S. President Ronald Reagan, and he knew about them," a senior minister in the Cabinet told *Hadashot* yesterday. The minister said one can assume that Reagan's denial of his knowledge of the fact refers only to the stage in which the money received in return for the weapons was transferred to the Nicaraguan rebels. The minister confirmed that in the middle of 1985 Israel had indeed received a request from the United States to transfer weapons to Iran, which it did. [passage omitted]

Team Set Up To Investigate Source of Iran Leak

TA270955 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 27 Nov 86 p 1

[Report by Ron Ben-Yishay]

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Ministers Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Rabin have set up an investigatory team whose job will be to find the source of the leak on Israel's role in the "Iranian connection."

Government To Allow U.S. To Question Officials

TA280601 Tel Aviv YED'IOT AHARONOT in Hebrew 28 Nov 86 pp 1, 6

[Report by Roni Shaqed and Shlomo Naqdimon; Errol Guiney, Eli Tavor, and Ya'aqov Eylon in the United States; Yohanan Lahav in London; and Edwin Eytan in Paris]

[Excerpt] Israel will comply with a U.S. request — if such is made — to enable American investigators to question the Israelis whose names have been mentioned in connection with the affairs of the arms supply to Iran. These are 'Amiram Nir, the prime minister's adviser on terrorism; David Kimche, the former director general of the Foreign Ministry; and Al Schwimmer, a former special adviser to Shim'on Peres.

Although Washington has not yet sent such an official request, hints and rumors have reached Jerusalem to the effect that the American investigators who are questioning those administration officials involved in the affair also want to interrogate the Israelis who collaborated with them.

It was stated in Jerusalem last night that Israel has nothing to hide or fear from the questioning of the Israelis by U.S. investigators. Referring to the role played by 'Amiram Nir in the affair, all Israeli sources confirm that he did not operate on his own and had continuously briefed former Prime Minister Shim'on Peres who, for his part, shared this information with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and then-foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. [passage omitted]

Sale Hoped To Locate Soldiers Held in Lebanon

TA270511 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] The Iranian arms sale affair continues to make additional waves: The AP quotes an Israeli official as saying private Israeli weapons dealers took advantage of the onetime authorization by the Reagan Administration to sell arms to the Tehran Government. The unnamed official in Jerusalem said Israel allowed the private sale in hopes that this would help locate missing Israeli soldiers being held in Lebanon.

Meanwhile, Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee Chairman Abba Eban has termed the decisionmaking process involved in the Iranian arms sale affair totally inadequate.

Shamir Says Relations With U.S. Not in Danger

TA270638 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir believes that Israel's relations with the United States do not face any immediate danger in the wake of the affair of the arms supplied to Iran and the funds supplied to the rebels in Nicaragua and that the Israeli aspect of these affairs is gradually playing a lesser role in the political argument within the United States.

Shamir made these remarks last night in a meeting of the Likud ministers and in light of reports he received from Israel's legations in the United States.

Peres Says U.S. Not Seeking To Find Scapegoat

TA261535 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Shim'on Peres this evening sharply attacked the news media, particularly the newspaper *Davar*, for what he termed false reports concerning the Iranian affair. This is reported by our correspondent Razi Barqay.

Peres said that in absolute contrast to Israeli press reports, the U.S. Administration is not trying to make a scapegoat out of Israel concerning the deal with Iran. He added that, during his phone conversation with George Shultz, there was no sign whatsoever that the administration was on a confrontation course with Israel or that the friendship between the two countries is in danger. Mr Peres was speaking in Tel Aviv.

Peres Replies to Knesset No-Confidence Motions

TA261625 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1130 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Address by Shim'on Peres, vice prime minister and foreign minister, to the Knesset in response to no-confidence motions over the Iran arms sale affair — live]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] What do I have to be ashamed of? That we helped the United States in such a humane issue?

Knesset Member [MK] Yosi Sarid says there is a Teflon pan and in the other hand a tin pan to which every bit of dirt gets stuck. Who is sticking the dirt? I want to understand. Who is the glue? Someone is serving as the glue. I heard your remarks, and I will tell you what things you said are incorrect.

You have slandered the Israeli Government with incredible audacity, as if you spoke in the name of the Lord. Who told you that we played inside Washington? What gives you the authority to tell such a tale, that we played inside Washington, that we stirred up intrigues in Washington? [MK Sarid interrupts, shouting indistinct]

You! You said: Do you not have enough intrigue in Jerusalem, we have to stir up intrigue in Washington? What intrigue did we stir up? What gives you the authority to tell such a lie?

Last night I spoke to Mr Shultz: Did he say that? I spoke with Mr Meese: Did he say that? On whose behalf are you speaking? You are the glue. Did MacFarlane say it? Did the President say so? Did someone say this about us? [passage omitted]

Life is full of contradictions. I will now read what Mr Meese said, the reasons they decided to supply arms to Iran. This is what he said: To try to bring an end to the Iran-iraq war; to try to decrease the participation of Iran in terrorism in the Middle East; and to get our hostages. [last sentence in English, quoting Meese]

Each MK must make his own list of priorities. I would like to say that as an Israeli and as a human being I am full of admiration for the President of the United States, who has 230 million constivents and who, nevertheless, when he has 6 hostages does not rest for 1 minute. What are arms dealers? What kind of arms dealers are we? [passage indistinct with many interruptions from various Knesset members]

A true democratic country, not one that MK Wilner would like, must remain responsible for the fate, safety, freedom, and memory, sometimes, of every single citizen. This is the consideration that confronted us. And do not try to slander us. Money was not a consideration here. Israel did not earn even one penny from the whole affair.

I am proud and moved when a person as extraordinary as Secretary of State Shultz, in whose integrity and sincerity I believe, raises the matter of Soviet Jewry at the top of his agenda every time he goes to Moscow. Am I the one to give him instructions? Does he get instructions from me? And if the President does the same thing, if the President asks something of us? It is this false egoism that dictates that everyone should do things for us, and we do nothing for others. Why? Why? What capitulation to pressure is involved? I was proud when the three U.S. hostages were released, even though they were not Israelis. I was proud. It is possible that had there been control, they would have known how they were released. However, it is possible that had they known, the hostages would not have been released. This is also a consideration, and I do not want to go into detail.

What kind of slander is this? Did we trade arms? Did we take anything for ourselves? Did we seek some advantage for ourselves? Why do I have to ask for your forgiveness, MK Granot? For what? For what do you want a commission of inquiry? Just because you read some gossip? Just because the media is having a ball? And this will also pass. We are not administering the United States. And I would like to tell MK Shitrit that we had nothing to prepare; this was not an Israeli operation.

I want to say one more thing: What compelled us yesterday to make a statement... [changes thought] I was of the opinion that Israel should remain silent — both my colleagues and I thought so. Whatever goes on in the U.S. is an American matter; it is a U.S. affair, not an Israeli one. Israel was asked to help, and it did so willingly. It was asked to help secretly, and it helped secretly, just as they help us secretly, and they do not tell the whole world how this is done. What happened yesterday was the insinuation — not even a report — that we had transferred money to the contras. There was nothing of the kind. We did not such thing. The money did not pass through Israel at all. Mr Mees was referring to all events since January this year. Not one penny passed through Israel. What was mentioned was the amount of money and the bank account, and the Iranians transferred this money directly. We had not taken part in it. What slander are you trying to make? We had nothing to do with it. [passage omitted]

Rabin Says Contra Connection 'Unknown To Us'

TA261950 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Interview with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by political correspondent Yig'al Goren; date and place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Rabin] Israel does not hesitate to approach the United States with requests to save Jews, to handle captives, to search for missing people, and it should be remembered that it was the United States that at the virtual last minute brought about the rescue of thousands of Ethiopian Jews from Sudan. We must remember that today as in the past, the United States serves as the main lever in talks with the Soviet Union to bring about the exit of Soviet Jews. Therefore, I believe the decision we — the prime minister, the vice prime minister and foreign minister, and myself — reached jointly to assist the United States in transferring U.S. arms and spare parts or, as the U.S. President defined them, defensive arms and spare parts. [sentence incomplete as heard] The money did not pass through us, as also appears in reports from the United States. I think that it is inconceivable for an Israeli Government not to grant such a request for assistance.

[Goren] But now, Israel finds itself in the midst of an American scandal, from your remarks, innocently enough. If so, what is going on here?

[Rabin] When talking about the United States, it is only natural that in a democratic country there can be differing opinions on the decision the President made on a certain policy toward Iran. I do not think it is our job to enter the argument. In my opinion, the President's policy as he had defined it, and even his willingness to strengthen it by sending those same defensive arms and spare parts, is acceptable to me. We, however, should not have stipulated our position. We were asked to help, and we helped. The business of the transfer of funds received in exchange in this deal for other purposes — namely, to help the contras who are fighting against the Sandinista regime in Nicaragua — was unknown to us and not coordinated with us. The fact that suspicion was cast on Israel, that it was responsible, was what led us to the issuing of the government statement yesterday in which we claimed that we had no part in this affair.

[Goren] Do you think that Israel will emerge from this affair scathed in terms of its relations with the United States?

[Rabin] I do not want to comment. I believe that essentially what Israel did was to transfer U.S. arms at the request of the United States and that the money did not pass through our hands. We made no financial gain from the affair. We did what we did for U.S. objectives with which I, at least, personally identify.

Government Feels 'Deceived' on Contra Connection

TA271050 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 27 Nov 86 pp 1, 13

[Report by Ron Ben-yishay and Roni Shaqed and by Erol Guiney, Eli Tavor, and Ya'aqov Eylon in the United States]

[Excerpts] The uproar aroused by the latest disclosures on the Iran weapons deal continues to make waves both in Jerusalem and in Washington. A senior source in Jerusalem said last night, in reaction to the accusations voiced by U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese: "We feel deceived, because the White House staff withheld from us information that the money received in return for the arms consignments we dispatched to Iran would be handed over to the Nicaraguan contra rebels. They imbroiled us, without our knowledge, and got us mixed up with Congress." [passage omitted]

Following are the developments in the Iranian arms affair: Officially, Jerusalem has been claiming that the U.S. Administration is "satisfied" with the clarifications made 2 days ago, maintaining that Israel played no role in the transfer of funds to the contras' Swiss bank accounts. The official position is that in fact there is no basic dispute between Israel and the United States, and there is and will not be a crisis between the two countries. The impression in the Prime Minister's Office last night was that, in view of reports from the United States, the statement changed the attitude toward Israel in both the Administration and Congress and that Israel is no longer at the eye of the hurricane, which is "an internal U.S. affair."

Yet the senior source who talked with our correspondent expressed great anger over U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese's rashness in hurrying to reveal facts that had not been checked in his statement of 2 nights ago, thereby besmirching Israel on the basis of evidence given by Administration elements that are unsympathetic toward Israel.

In fact, the Israeli Government is in a real tight spot or in a Catch-22 situation:

— Had Jerusalem failed to deny charges that it transferred money to the contras, this would have constituted a tacit admission of a plot to circumvent Congress and would have been construed as a big slap in the face of the House. It was Congress' support that had been so valuable to us even during the darkest days of the Carter Administration, and we will no doubt need it in the future, too.

— Israel therefore decided that for the sake of its relations with Congress, it must deny the charges, and consequently issued the communique expressing the truth as seen from Jerusalem's side, hoping the White House would be clever enough to extricate itself from that bog on its own. In so doing, it sent the ball — the charges — back to the White House's court, if not directly to the court of the friendly President, Ronald Reagan, himself.

Last night, Jerusalem again emphasized that all the U.S. weapons transferred to Iran were conveyed at the request of the United States, in return for which Israel received similar arms from the United States. Israel was not at all involved in the financial matters and merely informed the Iranian representative where to deposit the money in Switzerland. Israel had no knowledge where the money got to from Switzerland, and in fact it was none of its business, as it merely served as a funnel for the transfer of weapons to Iran.

The U.S. request for the transfer of weapons was relayed through the U.S. national security adviser directly to the prime minister.

Yesterday, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir briefed the Inner Cabinet on the entire affair. There he encountered bitter criticism over the fact that only a small group of ministers, which included the prime minister, the vice prime minister, and the defense minister, were in the know, while the other members of the Inner Cabinet were not briefed on the handling of the weapons transfer and had no role in it.

Further criticism was voiced there on the fact that the actual handling of the affair was entrusted to people that were not professional enough to deal with such a delicate and sensitive issue.

After hearing the explanations on the operation, the members of the Inner Cabinet were convinced that the consideations were justified, but they still claimed that the way the matter was handled — that is, without the knowledge of the entire Inner Cabinet — was wrong.

People in the Prime Minister's Office claimed yesterday that the team that handled the affair was sufficiently professional and responsible to deal with it, as it included three people who had served as prime ministers and had the moral power and responsibility to deal with it. [passage omitted]

As for the actual arms deals, new details have been published:

— A senior Jerusalem source has reported that "since January 1985, not even a single item was taken out of IDF warehouses for the Iranians, and not $1 passed through Israeli hands. Everything was dealt with directly between the Iranians and the United States." [passage omitted]

Weizman: Government Unaware of Contra Funding

TA261545 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Minister Weizman says he will not demand the setting up of an inquiry commission into the matter of arms supplies to Iran. Weizman says Israel did not know that the money from the arms sales was transferred to the contras. He assessed that the scandal in the United States would take on even greater proportions than Watergate because the matter involves the violation of a congressional law.

Our correspondent 'Adi Malul reports Weizman was speaking at a symposium at the Sharet Institute in Jerusalem. He added that there was a contradiction between the sale of arms to Iran and our ties with Egypt and Jordan.

Views Iran Affair, U.S. Ties

TA262055 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1940 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Interview with Minister Without Portfolio 'Ezer Weizman by Yoram Ronen, Elimelekh Ram, and Moshe Shlonsky on the "Moqed" program — live in the studio]

[Excerpts] [Ronen] Good evening, Mr Weizman.

[Weizman] Good evening.

[Ronen] Last night U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese announced that Israel sold arms to Iran and that the funds received for them were transferred to the rebels in Nicaragua. Did this announcement surprise you?

[Weizman] Yes, definitely. I think that it surprised not only me but the whole government. As far as I could make out today, it was not part of the deal or the prior agreement. Therefore it surprised me and the three ministers who handled this whole subject of Iran and the hostages.

[Ronen] Was the prior agreement a decision not to publicize anything?

[Weizman] I did not take part in the decisionmaking; therefore, I cannot answer you on any agreements. If you ask me about things I know, I will answer you; if you ask me about my opinions, I will certainly answer you.

[Ram] Mr Weizman, the decision, as the foreign minister said today, was made by a three-man forum: then Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, then foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, and Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin. Do you think that this is the way a decision on matters of such great importance should be made; that is, by three out of the ten Inner Cabinet members?

[Weizman] The answer is: certainly not. [passage omitted]

[Ram] Let us talk of a hypothetical situation. Let us say that we will present reasons against such a deal to President Reagan or the U.S. Administration when they ask us for whatever they do. Suppose also that they are not convinced by our arguments. In your opinion, in the name of the special relations between Israel and the United States, should we have nevertheless gone ahead with the deal?

[Weizman] Look, I assess that the deal may have ultimately been carried through. However, I would have meticulously checked where the money was going and not let myself be trapped, as we are informed, that this money went to an account to south...

[Ronen, interrupting] Switzerland, to Switzerland and from there to the Contras.

[Shlonsky] We may not have had any control over it, did we?

[Weizman] Look, we are talking about friends and of trust between us and America. If what we hear is correct, then putting it in simple terms I would say that we were tricked on the Nicaragua issue. Now, if we were tricked on the Nicaragua issue, then the lid on this exercise did not close well, apparently. With your permission, though, I would like to ask the United States — and not only on this specific issue of supply or no supply of arms.

[Ronen] I would like to ask you a question here first. In your assessment, has this recent affair damaged our relations with the United States, especially our relations with the U.S. Congress, which is very much opposed to this deal?

[Weizman] At first glance, my answer is yes. The moment you reach a situation where you have to supply excuses you are not in a good position. However, taking into consideration the strong basis of relations between us and the United States, understanding which is based on simple friendship as well as common interests, I assess this will be a passing storm. However, this storm will leave a lot of debris behind. I would not lightly dismiss the present situation as an ephemeral episode. Whoever reads the U.S. press, whoever listens to what emanates from that country will see the U.S. storm has just begun, and unfortunately we keep hearing of Israeli names or moves all the time.

[Ronen] In other words, the mud will ultimately stick to us as well, in your opinion?

[Weizman] Look, I am not saying this is mud. I am talking about a problem; this is a problem rather than mud. Let me repeat: some did this with sincerity, although their decision making process is wrong, as far as I am concerned. However, I cannot accept assessments that this will not affect relations with the United States. Some friends of ours have already disappeared from the scene...

[Ronen, interrupting] For instance?

[Weizman] For instance, (?North) and Poindexter, those people who spoke; possibly also Secretary Shultz whom we regard as a friend. I do not know him as well as some of my colleagues do. I also assess that the affair is not over for President Reagan either yet. Remember the case of President Nixon who was an excellent U.S. President and an Israeli sympathizer: He extended extraordinary aid to us during the Yom Kippur War, and he had to resign for not telling the truth.

[Shlonsky] Do you assess that Reagan will be removed as well?

[Ram] You are saying this is worse than Watergate; this is what you said at the beginning of this interview. Is it so indeed?

[Weizman] I am saying this is worse than Watergate since this involves complications with the Congress as well. This apparently involves not telling the truth and the issue of Nicaragua, and do not forget that the Congress and Senate there are all Democratic. If I were the U.S. President, I would be very concerned today. [passage omitted]

Paper Says Syria Leaked Report on Arms Deal

TA281101 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 28 Nov 86 p 1

[Report by the political correspondent]

[Excerpt] Syria was the party that leaked to the U.S. media the report on the weapons deal with Iran to harm the position of the U.S. Administration. This was done as a result of the sanctions imposed on Syria by the United States and other Western countries. This comes out of reports that have reached Jerusalem.

Syria knew about these deals as a result of its links with Iran; Syria and Libya transferred Soviet weapons to Iran, among them long- range missiles Iran uses to bomb Baghdad. Some of the weapons Libya gave Iran were transferred without Soviet permission, after Libya purchased the weapons from the USSR. [passage omitted]

Press Editorials Discuss Iran Issue 26 Nov

TA261835 [Editorial Report] Most of the Israeli press on 26 November carries editorials and commentaries on the issue of arms sales to Iran in general, as well as on U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese's disclosure about Israel's involvement in the affair, in particular. The paper call for answers on Israel's role in this, level criticisms at the Israeli Government, and elaborate on the grave short- and long-term ramifications involved.

In a front-page commentary in *Ha'aretz*, entitled "Israel Will Be Damaged by What Started Out as Granting Assistance to a Friend and Become an International Escapade," military commentator Ze'ev Schiff says that Israel's name is increasingly mentioned as the one responsible for the complications that the United States is currently facing on the Iranian issue, with some in the United States already claiming that one of Israel's targets was "to drive a wedge between the United States and moderate Arab countries such as Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and Jordan, which support Iraq in its war against Iran." According to Schiff, Israel will surely be damaged, and leaders such as Peres and Rabin will also face delicate problems since, in meetings with Secretaries Shultz and Weinberger "they concealed from their U.S. counterparts moves Israel made behind their backs in cooperation with the National Security Council of the White House."

In a commentary on page seven of the same paper, entitled "The Story of the Persian Cat's Tail," New York-based correspondent Yo'av Qarni contends that as "a legitmate partner to the discreditation of the U.S. Administration" on the Iranian issue, Israel too will have to make decisions, on its stance on Iran for one. According to Qarni, Israel has for many years adhered to a "peripheral," anti-Arab political policy that meant the "Persian cat" like other "cats" or countries on the periphery of the region share Israel's interests in their negative attitude toward the Arabs. The question though is whether this policy "will serve Israel's long-term interests," since short-term tactical victories for Israel only strengthen the Arabs' conviction that "Israel is a foreign element whose political practices involve the undermining of stability in the Arab world," which does not serve the cause of peace in the Middle East.

An *Ha'aretz* editorial on page seven, entitled "Who Decided To Grant Military Aid to Iran?", demands an answer to its statement that Israel's aid to Iran started even before Iraq attacked this country and that, despite official declarations, this was a clear Israeli policy for 5 long years.

In a commentary entitled "Has a Government Been Abducted?" on pages seven and eight of *Davar*, Yosi Melman declares that once the government breaks its silence over the Iran issue it will have to give replies to many important questions on the decision-making process involved. The impression created is that interested arms dealers, Ya'aqov Nimrodi and Al Schwimmer, "abducted" the government and forced it into this affair. Quoting Minister Moshe Arens, who termed the present U.S. Administration's complications as "Irangate," Melman says that it is not only the U.S. public but also the Israeli public which is entitled to hear explanations from the decisionmakers.

Writing in the same paper and on the same pages, in a commentary entitled "Adieu, L'Ami," Washington-based correspondent Amnon Dankner points to one major damage which may be caused to Israel in this affair: the possible loss of George Shultz, who is Israel's "most prominent friend ever," in the U.S. Administration. Dankner claims that whatever eventually happens with Shultz in this affair, however lacking in credibility and loyalty to his President as he may be, the official Jerusalem has played Brutus in rewarding this great friend at one of his most difficult moments by sticking a knife in his back through leaking to the Israeli press that the U.S. secretary of state "is not being accurate" in his remarks on his knowledge of the Iranian issue. "It is clear that Israel will lose if a great friend is removed." Furthermore, it is not only Shultz but other friends of Israel who will take note of Jerusalem's betrayal, as well.

In a commentary entitled "The Game Is Over," on page two of *Hadashot*, Ilan Kfir says that if Edwin Meese's disclosure about Israel's devious conduct is proven true, "this will deal a hard blow to Israel and its relations with the U.s. Congress," noting that the resulting crisis of credibility "will have grave existential implications for Israel." Kfir concludes that even if the appropriate conclusions are drawn against the responsible persons in Israel and even if the Israeli Government will explain matters and apologize, "it is doubtful if it will be possible to restore our damaged credibility in the short term."

In a commentary entitled "Special Assistant for Dirty Affairs" on page three of *'Al Hamishmar*, Gadi Yatziv says that thanks to public pressure in the democratic United States the Israeli people have learned, despite their government's denials, that we have undertaken the role of "a special assistant for dark and dirty affairs" and of a special agent used for circumventing U.S. public opinion, U.S. Congressional decisions, and U.S. laws in general. Yatziv notes that this is a "particularly rare folly" and that this "wise commercial wisdom," which has no moral restraint and knows no ideological barrier, "is engaged in feasting and revelry, gets drunk, and wallows in its vomit."

In a commentary in the same opposition MAPAM paper on page seven, entitled "Who Determines What Is Good for Us?", Dalya Shehori points out that the same pattern of decisionmaking by only three people in the Israeli Government, the prime minister and defense and foreign ministers, characterizes all four major scandals that erupted this year: the Pollard, Shin Bet, Vanunu, and Iran affairs. Shehori condemns this practice as both undemocratic and counterproductive. The decision on the arms sale was the U.S. Administration's, but Israel today appears in the United States as an intriguing country, as a troublemaker, as a country that "pretends to act on behalf of the United States for friendship's sake, but cares only for its own interests, in fact." Shehori says it is too early for Jerusalem to hope for a good end, for having the great friend Shultz remain in his office and Jean Kirkpatrick appointed as the president's national security adviser, and that whatever the end result, such unpleasant affairs make Israel register in the U.s. public opinion as "a friend one should be wary of."

In a commentary on pages one and nine of *Ma'ariv*, entitled "Eroding Credibility," 'Ido Dissentchik questions both the technical and substantive aspects of this affair. Criticizing the fact that only the Shamir-Peres-Rabin trio made decisions on important issues, Dissentchik says that it is crystal clear now that Israel can no longer hide behind the innocent claim that its actions were intended solely in order to aid its distressed friend. "There is no doubt anymore that the Israeli initiative was an important catalyst in U.s. considerations, to the point where a U.s. official, the national security adviser, did not see any fault in cooperating with Israel behind the president's back. Israel may not have known that the President is not in the know but this, too, will be difficult to sell today." The Israelis are not innocent; they knew they were party to a potentially large-scale scandal, and today they are indeed "tied with an umbilical cord" to a Watergate-size situation. Dissentchik deplores the irresponsible support extended to Iran and the Nicaraguan contras, stating that in any normal country the leadership would not be able to evade responsibility for eroding the country's credibility, but this is not the case here: "Whoever could constitute alternative leadership in Israel was party to the act; there is nobody to dismiss and nobody to resign, unless they all resign."

In a commentary on the same pages of the same paper, entitled "The Ugly Israeli," Washington-based correspondent 'Ofra Yeshu'a-Lyth elaborates on the grave ethical and political implications of the affair. Those in Jerusalem who decided it was worthwhile "to dirty their hands in this muddy deal," have muddled Israel's public image and caused the mud to boomerang in our face. This may cause friendly U.s. elements to turn against Israel and against the ugly face of the Israelis involved, those sophisticated dealers who seemed to have made more money on the arms sold than quoted in the official U.S. Administration's prices. The commentator concludes with the hope that democracy will at least be practised in Israel and that those who gave the instruction will be required to draw the appropriate conclusions.

In its editorial on page ten, entitled "Keeping a Secret," *Ma'ariv* basically laments the indifference revealed by the Israeli public toward the fact that its government decides on and practices important policies without any supervision from such bodies as the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Subcommittee.

In a commentary on pages one and twelve of *Yedi'ot Aharonot*, entitled "Jerusalem — It Is True That We Supplied Arms, But We Did Not Transfer Money to the Contras," Roni Shaqed and Shlomo Naqdimon say that following Meese's disclosure "Israel had to explain its position last night so as not to turn into a scapegoat in the struggle now waging in and around the U.S. Administration." It is clear to Israel that it is facing a difficult problem and that some Washington elements would want to divert some of the pressure off to Israel, so although Jerusalem hopes the U.S. President overcomes the current crisis, it has to make clear it acted in good faith on this matter and not behind the President's back.

In a commentary entitled "The Question: Did the Israeli Representatives Realize That They Were Participating in Bypassing Congress?" on pages three and twelve of *Yedi'ot Aharonot*, Ron Ben-Yishay wonders on the real extent of Israel's involvement in this affair, noting that possibly the gravest outcome will be U.s. Congress' negative reaction to Israel if Israel consciously shared in circumventing it. Ben-yishay contends, though, that remarks by Meese and others seems to show that attempts are underway to eliminate the crossfire directed at the President "by dismissing White House officials and pointing an accusing finger toward Israel." However, the light here for Israel is that it is Poindexter and North, rather than Shultz, Israel's faithful supporter, who had to go.

In its second page editorial, entitled "The Iranian Plot Thickens," *Yedi'ot Aharonot* says that Israel's involvement, or rather "intrigue," has become a fact in U.S. public opinion, and that Israel seems second in line to Poindexter and North in the efforts to rescue the President and find the culprit. U.S. elements indicate Israel has both political and military interests in this affair that run counter to U.s. one. In this affair Israel may lose friends as well as the sympathy of Congress in the United States.

27 Nov Editorials

TA270605 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0430 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Review of morning press editorials]

[Text] *Ha'aretz* says that if it transpires now that the U.S. officials took theuir own counsel in regard to the consignments of weapons to Iran and exceeded their authority while withholding vital information from their superiors, including the President, there is no reason why the blame for either all or part of the consequences should be put on Israel. Unfortunately, this is precisely the impression gained from the U.S. attorney general's remarks 2 days ago. One should not rule out the possibility that further attempts of this kind will be made in the next few days. We should prepare for and withstand this trend unequivocally. The blunder is that of the U.S. Administration, and so far not even one charge against Israel's role in the blunder, even one raised by the U.S. attorney general, has been proved. This message should be relayed to Congress and the U.S. public clearly and firmly. A special information campaign, using public personalities and experts from among Israel's friends overseas, may be necessary to achieve this.

Davar writes that in the final analysis it would be difficult to believe that in a country like the United States, whose affairs are conducted so smoothly, the President's national security adviser could act behind the President's back. The question is whether the destination of the money deposited in Switzerland — namely, the contras — was known to the Israelis. The prime minister, the vice prime minister, and the defense minister ought to be given the benefit of the doubt on this matter, unless proved otherwise.

Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres' speech in the Knesset yesterday was good. He sounded convincing when he spoke about the motives behind the operation; namely, that the hope for financial profits played no role whatsoever. This, however, is not to say that the bitter criticism voiced by the opponents of the deal was completely groundless. This contradiction merely shows how involved and complex such deals are and how dangerous they can be. We must analyze what was done and draw conclusions from the events about the way we handle arms supplies and with respect to the recipients of those weapons. If no soul-searching is done, and if we fail to learn the proper lessons, the damage will be all that is left in the end.

Hatzofe says that the most senior decisionmaking echelon cannot plead innocence; one cannot but wonder about the fact that the past 2 years' leading triumvirate — that is, Shim'on Peres, Yitzhaq Rabin, and Yitzhaq Shamir — failed to see where things were leading and how far they were deteriorating. This holds particularly true with regard to the person who stood at the helm at the time. This introspection is necessary for the past, but more than that, it is crucial for the future. Israel will be hard put to face future affairs like the supply of weapons to Iran if they should crop up again. We are facing damage to our reputation and international standing, and these are matters that require a long time to overcome.

'Al Hamishmar writes that the story on the use of the Iranian money to finance arms sales to the contra rebels in Nicaragua is currently being totally denied by officials in Israel, just as the story on the sale of weapons of Iran had been a month ago. However, all we need to do is wait patiently for the Americans to tell us the whole truth on this embarrassing issue, too. Those directly responsible for implicating Israel in these murky affairs, as the paper puts it, which are detrimental to the country's security and future, are the advisers who stirred up this concoction. People like 'Amiram Nir should be fired at once, but, nevertheless, they are supervised by the ministers, as well as the former and incumbent prime minister, neither of whom have yet claimed responsibility and resigned.

The Jerusalem Post says that in the absence today of any genuine opposition, there is not the scantest hope that the Knesset will be able to hold the government to account, even when it perpetrates a monumental blunder. That task we have relegated to the U.S. Congress. With no checks and balances in Jerusalem, it will remain for the Congress in Washington not only to straighten out its own Administration, but Israel's as well.

Hamodi'a writes that Mr Peres' feelings about the self-destructive attitudes permeating and guiding the Israeli media is a long-standing sentiment, which was bred by that press' continuous efforts and systematic self-destructiveness even on matters relating to Israel's very right exist as a Jewish state, as welll as on other issues pertaining to the fabrica of relations between Jews and Arabs. Here, too, the paper claims, the press is motivated by self-destructive aspirations that take the form of exaggerating things at the whim of individual reporters.

Air Force Raids 'Terrorist' Targets Near Sidon

TA271256 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1254 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Here is an announcement by the IDF spokesman: Air Force airplanes raided terrorist targets south of Sidon in southern Lebanon at noon. All our planes returned safely to their bases. The pilots reported accurate hits on the targets. The targets attacked included positions and trenches used by terrorists of the Fatah and other organizations. As said, all our planes returned safely to their bases.

Further Details

TA271830 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Report by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal]

[Text] The targets for the Israeli Air Force attack today were two multi-story structures that were under construction near the Al-Miyah Wa Miyah and 'Ayn al-Hulwah refugee camps in the Sidon area. Fighter planes were used this time, unlike the attack there 10 days ago in which attack helicopters were used. The attack began at 1415 this afternoon and was brief. The pilots noticed several jeeps escaping from the site just prior to the attack. They hit and damaged structures that served Fatah and other terrorist organizations. The pilots reported no antiaircraft fire against them and returned safely to base after the attack.

In the course of the operation, the pilots took care not to harm Shi'ite fighters who have been clashing with terrorists in this area for several days; hits were only on the predetermined targets. One may assume that today's attack carries significance beyond the hits on the targets themselves. As just said, the Shi'ites are struggling against the terrorists in this region, and the Air Force attack may undermine the terrorists' feeling of confidence, strengthened lately in the wake of several victories that they scored in the Sidon and Maghdushah areas.

ALGERIA

PDRY's Al-'Attas Concludes Visit to Country

LD261444 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] President Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the PDRY Supreme Presidium, left Algeria this morning following a 3-day friendly working visit to our country. The Yemeni president was seen off at Houari Boumediene International Airport by Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic, FLN secretary general, and member of the Political Bureau; senior officials of the party and state; and members of the Arab diplomatic corps accredited to Algeria. Before boarding the plane, President al-'Attas greeted those present and listened to both national anthems; President al-'Attas then inspected a republican guard of honor.

During his visit, the Yemeni President had a series of talks with President Chadli Bendjedid; another set of talks took place between both delegations at the Charter Building [jinan mithaq]. The Yemeni president also visited a number of social and cultural projects in Algeria. The delegation accompanying him had talks with Algerian officials. The talks touched upon bilateral relations and ways to improve them. They also exchanged views on the Arab situation and international issues of mutual interest.

Joint Communique Issued

LD261855 Algiers APS in Arabic 1500 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Excerpts] Algiers, 26 Nov (APS) — President Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium, left Algiers this morning at the end of a 3-day friendly working visit. [passage omitted]

The friendly working visit of President Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium, to Algeria from 24 to 26 November was crowned by the issuing of a joint communique which includes the strengthening of existing brotherly ties between the two brotherly peoples, the consolidating of the ties of friendship and solidarity that prevail in the relations between the two countries, and the importance of strengthening continued consultations and coordination between the leadership of the two brotherly countries, particulary regarding issues pertaining to the Arab world and issues of its destiny.

The two sides reaffirmed their countries' support for the Palestinian people's struggle because of it being the essence of the Middle East problem; the conflict in this region cannot be settled without finding a just solution to the Palestinian people's right of self-determination and the establishing of their independent state on their national soil.

To prevent unilateral initiatives [words indistinct], the two sides believe that the convening of an international conference attended by all concerned parties, including the PLO, and under the supervision of the UN Security Council's permanent members, would help to find a just and lasting solution to the Middle East issue.

On the Lebanese problem, the two sides urge all concerned Lebanese parties to stop the fighting among themselves and to work toward finding a framework of understanding among the various factions in order to maintain the Arabism of Lebanon, its territorial unity, independence, and sovereignty, and to return security and stability to Lebanon. They encourage initiatives aimed at achieving Lebanese national unity through constructive dialogue among political [word indistinct] for the sake of peace under national legitimacy. They also express their full support for the Lebanese people's steadfastness in the face of the Zionist occupation and their struggle for the liberation of all their land.

The two sides also stress that the just solution of the Western Sahara question lies in the implementation of the resolutions of the OAU and of the UN General Assembly. They renewed their appeal to the two sides involved in the conflict — Morocco and the Polisario — to enter into direct negotiaions on a cease-fire, in the aim of achieving the necessary conditions for conducting a plebiscite on self-determination and independence for Western Sahara under the auspices of the OAU and the United Nations.

With regard to the Iraq-Iran war, the two sides express their regret at the continuation of this war and appeal to the two sides to end this destructive war and resort to peaceful means to find a final and just settlement which will guarantee the rights of both sides and safeguard their dignity.

The two sides reaffirmed their backing and total support for the (liberation) movements in South Africa and Namibia, under the leadership of the ANC [African National Congress] and SWAPO [South-West Africa People's Organization], in their legitimate struggle against slavery and racism so that the two peoples can regain their legitimate rights to independence and freedom. The two sides renewed their allegiance with the Frontline States against the racist regime in Pretoria.

In this connection the two sides stressed the legitimate right of the colonized people's armed struggle to liberate their lands, attain their independence, and regain their usurped rights. The two sides condemn the aggressive policy pursued by the imperialist forces, the terroristic practices, the piratical methods, and the violation of other states' territorial integrity and sovereignty. The two sides reaffirm the right of peoples to choose their own political and social systems.

In their review of international issues of mutual interest the views of both sides were identical with regard to all the questions which were discussed. The two sides expressed their commitment to the principles of the Nonaligned Movement, their conviction in continuing the efforts to bolster international peace and world security, to halt the arms race, and to liquidate foreign military bases. The two sides stressed the significance of meetings between officials of both fraternal countries at all party and government levels.

LIBYA

DIE ZEIT Newspaper interviews Al-Qadhdhafi

DW280755 Hamburg DIE ZEIT in German 28 Nov 86 pp 9-13

[Interview with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi by editors Theo Sommer and Jochen Steinmayr in the reception tent of his headquarters in Libya "a week ago"]

[Text] *Die Zeit*: Colonel, the world does not always understand you. We would like to understand you better.

One of the most important events this year was the U.S. bombing of Tripoli and Banghazi. What were the consequences of that incident? What were you personally doing the day and night of the bombardment?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Viewing the events today I would say that the shameful situation that Reagan and his gang are in now began precisely in that night of aggression. That teaches everybody a lesson. It teaches us that whenever such methods are used things always end up like that. Hitler also ended in tragedy because of his methods; the same applies to Mussolini. Zionism will end equally tragically because it uses the same methods. Every reasonable person would never use such methods because they always end up in disaster.

Die Zeit: What in your view is tragic about President Reagan's situation?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Reagan's present situation cannot be compared with the situation of a normal individual, let alone that of a statesman. His situation is lousy. It would have been better for him if he had died.

Die Zeit: That is a very personal judgment. Not everybody in America and Europe shares your view.

Al-Qadhdhafi: For how many days have you been here?

Die Zeit: For 4 days.

Al-Qadhdhafi: Maybe you are isolated from international news.

Die Zeit: We have heard nothing during the last 3 days. What has happened?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I am not making personal statements now; I am giving you the facts. Yesterday former security adviser McFarlane disclosed the facts. He explained everything. He said that Reagan was like a child and immature. He even said that Reagan did not know the U.S. laws. He said he was unqualified and did not deserve to be U.S. President. Secretary of State George Shultz denied having known anything about the Iran affair. However, it has been proved that he did know. Both parties — Republicans as well as Democrats — are also opposed to Reagan. They told him that the attack against Libya was a mistake. They told him that he had become involved in dangerous things without knowing what he was doing.

Die Zeit: Do you believe that your relationship with the United States can be repaired?

Al-Qadhdhafi: After Reagan, certainly. Reagan's successor will learn some lessons from his policy. He will respect us. I think that under a new President our relations will improve. The condition we make is that there be no high position for an Israeli in the National Security Council or the Department of State.

Die Zeit: Do you mean a Jew or an Israeli?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Every Jew is an Israeli.

Die Zeit: Not under any circumstances. Some Jews are German or U.S. citizens — Henry Kissinger, for instance. In your view, could Kissinger be security adviser again?

Al-Qadhdhafi: That would mean that Israel would have a man in the U.S. security apparatus.

Die Zeit: Your friend Kreisky is also a Jew.

Al-Qadhdhafi: His brother lives in Israel. He is Israeli because he is a Jew.

Die Zeit: Colonel, how was it possible at all for the Americans to fly their bombing missions unhindered? Did you not anticipate anything? Was there no advance warning?

Al-Qadhdhafi: We never believed and we never expected the whole NATO alliance to launch an attack on a small country and even a single family. The plan was to kill me and my family.

Die Zeit: That was not a NATO plan. Except for Margaret Thatcher, NATO learned about the operation only subsequently.

Al-Qadhdhafi: The two big powers, the United States and Great Britain, took part in the attack. The U.S. 6th Fleet, which carried out the attack, has bases in Spain and Italy.

Die Zeit: The attack was largely carried out from Great Britain.

Al-Qadhdhafi: The attack consisted of two parts. On the one hand, it was carried out by the 6th Fleet and on the other, from Great Britain. Banghazi was attacked by aircraft of the 6th Fleet. The other combat aircraft came from the United States. We are a small country. We do not have the technical facilities that NATO has for advance warning. The Soviet Union also told us that they had no knowledge of the attack.

Die Zeit: The Soviets reportedly were informed by the Americans. At any rate, they withdrew their military advisers in time.

Al-Qadhdhafi: That is not correct. The advisers were not withdrawn. If it were true, if it is true, it would affect the Soviet Union's credibility toward its friends and allies.

Die Zeit: The attack was preceded by months of controversies, including even personal attacks, between President Reagan and Colonel al-Qadhdhafi. Did you consider it possible for the Americans to venture a bombardment?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Generally, I do not view Reagan as President. I despise him. I do not respect him. I think he is a very mean character.

Die Zeit: How did you personally spend the night of the attack? What happened to your family? We saw some of the ruins yesterday.

Al-Qadhdhafi: I was in my house. My family was asleep. I was watching the situation because we expected some attack. However, we had expected an attack on military targets, not on my house and my family.

Die Zeit: What happened to your family?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Of course, the attack was focused on our house. The walls fell down on my family and the children. I was busy carrying the children down and saving my family from the ruins. Then I went to the military operations center. I realized that the attack was launched by a coward, not by a courageous man. It was not a fair fight but the attack of a cowardly individual who had sent his strategic aircraft from faraway America.

Die Zeit: Many people in the FRG are under the impression that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi also has not always used decent means. We are referring to the problem of international terrorism. In the Federal Republic Reagan's action was denounced. However, many people also said that those who support crimes like the explosions at the Vienna and Rome airports or the bomb attack on the West Berlin "La Belle" discotheque, should not be surprised that the Americans strike back.

Al-Qadhdhafi: There is no evidence of Libya's involvement in those terrorist attacks. It is clear now that Libya has nothing at all to do with them — neither in Rome, nor in Vienna, nor in Berlin. We have always said that we have nothing to do with those attacks.

Die Zeit: As for "La Belle," that is not the Bonn government's view. The Federal Government has said that there were radio messages between the Libyan People's Bureau in East Berlin and some headquarters in Tripoli. It proves that the action was directed by Libya and that an hour after the explosion the execution of the operation was reported — both by radio messages. While that may not have been testified to in court, the Federal Government assumes that Libyan authorities were involved in the affair.

Al-Qadhdhafi: We as a state know nothing about those things.

Die Zeit: What do you mean by "as a state?" Are there any private organizations or subordinate authorities in Tripoli which could know about them?

Al-Qadhdhafi: If a citizen of a state commits a crime is the state of that man reponsible for the crime or the man himself? German citizens have repeatedly attacked U.S. military facilities in the Federal Republic. Does that give the United States the right to attack Germany?

Die Zeit: But the RAF [Red Army Faction] terrorists whom you call "German citizens" did not use the radio sets of German embassies in preparation for their actions.

Al-Qadhdhafi: We doubt your version.

Die Zeit: What is Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's present stance on what we call terrorism?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I support the peoples' freedom struggle. Nothing can change my mind about that, even if I have to take the blame. However, we do reject terrorism.

Die Zeit: So would you say that the attack on the "La Belle" discotheque is a terrorist act that cannot be approved of?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I cannot judge that. I have no knowledge about who carried out an attack on whom there. Perhaps it was carried out by Germans against the U.S. soldiers who are in Germany as occupiers. In my view that is the people's resistance against their occupiers. That is probably the best and most logical explanation. The Americans should have bombed Germany instead of Libya (laughing).

Die Zeit: You support freedom movements throughout the world morally and financially — ranging from the IRA in Northern Ireland and ETA in Spain to the Muslim guerrillas in the Philippines. Do you also support the mujahidin's freedom movement in Afghanistan, even though it fights against your Soviet friends?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I see in what is happening in Afghanistan a confrontation between the Americans and the Soviets, because the United States finances the military struggle. However, I cannot support those who are financed by the United States.

Die Zeit: Do you not believe that it is not without reason that almost 3 million Muslims have fled from Afghanistan to Pakistan?

Al-Qadhdhafi: They flee from the war.

Die Zeit: How about your relationship with the Soviet Union? Is it correct that Libya wants to become a Warsaw Pact member?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Our relations are good.

Die Zeit: Again — Are you considering becoming a Warsaw Pact member?

Al-Qadhdhafi: We are considering it.

Die Zeit: Are the Soviets also contemplating it?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Yes. If the United States continues to launch such crazy attacks with destructive weapons and commits such crimes, we consider doing that.

Die Zeit: How do you view Libya's role in international politics?

Al-Qadhdhafi: From now on, Libya will play a very great and positive role in international politics, the reason being that Libya will introduce a new international theory: the theory of the people's state, the state of the masses, the jamahiriyah. That theory of the people is of course in contrast to the theory which prevails in the world today, the theory of the governments. Libya will be admired by all revolutionary forces of the Arab world. Thus the fate of the Arab world will be decided. Libya has the longest coast on the Mediterranean. Thus it will constitute a decisive force in the Mediterranean region.

Die Zeit: There is no indication that there are many emulators or admirers of your ideas in the Arab world. In fact, the Arab world is divided and not in agreement.

Al-Qadhdhafi: All young people will adopt the green idea. For the moment the admiration and acceptance of our ideas still exists underground. That holds true not only for the Arab region but for the whole world. Young people everywhere, including in Germany and the United States, support the third universal theory. They believe in it. The Green Book will be the bible of our modern age.

Die Zeit: There is a political movement in the FRG called "the Greens." However, it has very little to do with the Green Book and the ideas it contains.

Al-Qadhdhafi: In the future there will be a uniform green movement in the whole world. I support the Greens in Germany without any reservation. I consider this movement an expression of our ideas and opinions.

Die Zeit: The Egyptian revolutionary Gamal Abd al-Nasir said once about the Arab Islamic world that he wished to succeed in reconciling the Arab world, but that he considered it impossible to reconcile the whole Islamic world.

Al-Qadhdhafi: What is your question?

Die Zeit: The Green Book, the implementation of the ideas contained therein presupposes a perfect mankind that does not exist.

Al-Qadhdhafi: Perfect mankind does not exist — up to now. However, it is the desired prospect. Development should go in that direction. The real goal at the moment is the unification of the Arab world. I consider this my supreme task.

Die Zeit: You have concluded many unions with Arab states. None lasted for long. Do you think that your unification policy will be more successful in the future?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I do not consider the unification attempts with other Arab states as failed. They were vanguards, vanguards of real Arab unity.

Die Zeit: Let us discuss your Green Book. Where did you get your ideas from? What philosophers did you read? Do your ideas come only from the Koran or are there other sources? How did you write the book? Did you sit in a desert tent writing it by hand or did you dictate the text?

Al-Qadhdhafi: First, I studied history, philosophy, and psychology, and I also studied the real situation of mankind. I do that all the time. I study reality. I see always most clearly why this person is unhappy and the other happy, why this person cries and the other laughs, why this person is rich and the other poor. I have studied direct relations between people in an uncomplicated society. I compared it with a class society.

Die Zeit: Does this term come from Marxism? Did you read Karl Marx at all?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I consider Marxism a step to get mankind ahead. I consider the universal theory a second step after Marxism. The Green Book comes after Marx.

Die Zeit: After that comes nothing else? Yet everything is changing constantly. Every theory is developing further. New theories come up and new needs.

Al-Qadhdhafi: Well, the final point is jamahiriya. It is possible that we may overshoot the mark on the way to jamahiriya and end up in a demagogical state where every person does what he wants.

Die Zeit: In anarchy?

Al-Qadhdhafi: More than anarchy — confusion. Second, we may stick with that government system, then we will not achieve jamahiriya. In any case jamahiriya is the model we aim for. Should we overshoot it to the confusion system, then we must go back. If we do not reach it we must try to get to it.

Die Zeit: The British say: The proof of the pudding is in the eating. A theory must be demonstrated in pratice. Do you believe that with your Green Book theory you have made your people happy? Do you think you can solve their economic problems that way?

Al-Qadhdhafi: That cannot be judged after just a few years. Mankind must first change in the course of an age.

The current situation of the Libyan people is the best in the whole world that is not ruled or dominated by a power. It is the only people that holds the power itself.

Die Zeit: Really? Is not there the will of the great leader and the apparatus of the great leader that passes that will to the masses?

Al-Qadhdhafi: It is my will to urge the people to execute the power. I do not have an administrative or a political role. I do not sign a resolution or a decree.

Die Zeit: However, you have the final say in the country. You can dismiss or appoint every individual.

Al-Qadhdhafi: That is not possible. There is no law permitting it. The laws or political resolutions all come from the people's congresses where all people participate. These laws or resolutions are implemented by people's committees that have been elected by the people's congresses. There are only people's congresses and people's committees. There is nothing else.

Die Zeit: There are also revolutionary committees. What is their role? The Green Book said nothing about them.

Al-Qadhdhafi: The revolutionary committees are there to bring the people to power.

Die Zeit: Also to control the people?

Al-Qadhdhafi: If they find something that is directed against the power of the people, the revolutionary committees will point it out to the people so that the people's congresses can take care of it.

Die Zeit: We consider the revolutionary committees a mixture of state, party, and secret police. What are they supposed to be?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Your picture is incorrect. The correct one is that this is a revolutionary force that comes from the people, from the masses. It urges the masses to execute power. It is against the power of the intelligence apparatus. Every organization that is against the masses will by these committees... [as published]

Die Zeit: Let us take a completely different practical question: the oil price. Some 2 years ago Libya made $22 billion, last year it was $10 billion, this year it will be only $5 billion. Can a big group of people ever decide on such a problem?

Al-Qadhdhafi: This question has nothing to do with the revolutionary committees.

Die Zeit: But how about the decisionmaking processes? The people's congress certainly cannot deal with the oil price. Or does it discuss Libya's involvement in Chad, for instance? Who decides on such matters?

Al-Qadhdhafi: The oil price is a matter of supply and demand on the world market. The people decide on the country's budget and the individual allocations. Like legislation, all those things are decided by the people.

Die Zeit: For example, is the question of whether or not Libya should interefere in Chad publicly discussed? Is the question publicly discussed of whether it would not be better to make the money for such an operation available for the domestic economy?

Al-Qadhdhafi: There is no interference in Chad. When the people's power was established the Libyan people decided that freedom movements should be supported and the country's borders defended.

Die Zeit: You have a great vision in mind. Is Colonel al-Qadhdhafi a prophet? Or who is he? How does he see himself?

Al-Qadhdhafi: You can say, I am a prophet of peace and freedom. I am also a prophet of a new era, the era of the masses.

Die Zeit: Did you have the feeling of being a prophet already as a child?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I am doing what in my view benefits mankind. That is my only interpretation.

Die Zeit: Prophets and theorists always have also to cope with the realities of life. We have been in your country 3 and 1/2 days now. What strikes the observer is the fact that whatever is modern here is built by foreign workers and firms. Does that not contradict the phrase against slave work in the Green Book: "The work in the house is done by those who live in it?"

Al-Qadhdhafi (laughing): That is a jamahiriyah for the masses throughout the world. We do not think in the narrow terms of "Libyans" and "non-Libyans." We do not think in such categories. If German citizens come to us because they want to live in freedom, without a government and without a system suppressing them, they can come and live here. We do not say that because they are Germans they must leave.

Die Zeit: Most of them come as workers or business representatives. They come as long as Libya can afford to pay for their work. For the moment Libya is in economic difficulties. Not all bills are paid, or they are not paid promptly. How is your country's development supposed to continue?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Libya will not suffer from the world economic crisis because Libya is a small country where there is no exploitation.

Die Zeit: But there are payment problems.

Al-Qadhdhafi: The Western companies have been harmed by the crisis, not Libya.

Die Zeit: Certainly, because Libya does not pay.

Al-Qadhdhafi: Who is to blame for that? We?

Die Zeit: That is a dubious way of doing business — profitable, but dubious.

Al-Qadhdhafi: There is a crisis in the oil market. Therefore, we cannot pay. The oil price has extraordinarily fallen. When it rises again the foreign companies will profit. Their bills are paid; they get everything that is due to them. They even get new orders for the future.

Die Zeit: Do you advocate higher oil prices?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Yes, I do.

Die Zeit: What would you consider to be an adequate price per barrel?

Al-Qadhdhafi: No less than $30.

Die Zeit: No less than $30?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Yes. Libya is ready to shut down its oil production until the oil prices are reasonably high. Libya can stop its oil production for several years.

Die Zeit: But at the expense of its own peopole.

Al-Qadhdhafi: No, on the contrary. Our people want to keep their oil rather than sell it at a loss.

Die Zeit: Okay, but the Libyan people must eat now, and Colonel al-Qadhdhafi must pay for his weapons now. So a minimum of revenue is indispensable.

Al-Qadhdhafi: We do not live on oil. We also lived before oil was produced.

Die Zeit: Following the 14 April attack, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi had disappeared — at least that was our impression. It has been rumored that he is depressed or depressive, an unhappy man who is withdrawing or has to withdraw from politics. It has also been rumored that he is sick. How would he personally describe his state of health and his state of mind?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I am unhappy at the state of affairs in the world. The world lives in a jungle today. Violence has become law and suppression has become the usual practice. People have no character, they are corrupt. Peace, freedom, and happiness are threatened by many dangers.

The U.S. bombing raid has challenged me even more. After the raid I was busy building my country again and improving the military protection of its borders, because I had realized that we live in a lawless jungle. However, the Libyans know me and see me and are aware that I always live among them. When the time came for me to become active again, I became active — in Africa and elsewhere in the world following the Harare conference. Because Reagan himself was depressed he said that Al-Qadhdhafi is depresed or unhappy or sick.

Die Zeit: You said, the people see Al-Qadhdhafi. The people do not see much of him. Paradoxically, in the country of the masses there are many pictures of an individual man in very different uniforms and poses. It says in the Green Book: The bedouins mock at dramatic or theatrical behavior. Are not all the Al-Qadhdhafi posters a bit theatrical?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I do not like to be in the limelight, nor do I like gossip and gabble. But that is how people are. I have repeatedly seen pictures of myself on walls and have had them removed. However, that is against what the people want who put those posters on the walls.

Die Zeit: A very unpolitical, personal question: What does the desert mean to you? What does rain mean to you?

Al-Qadhdhafi (laughing): They are the origin of nature. First there is the desert, and the rain falls and makes the land green and fertile. The nature of the desert teaches man many truths. Man can also withdraw from this modern world and go into the desert and feel almost like the first man of creation.

Al-Qadhdhafi on Iran-Iraq Killing of Civilians

LD271859 Tripoli JANA in English 1758 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Harth 27, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — In the process of answering a question from JANA on the mass annihilation of the Palestinians in Lebanon on the hands of the Shi'ite "despair" gangs, the leader of the revolution said:

"Allegation about the presence of the Yasir 'Arafat group has become an apt excuse to annihilate the Palestinian presence in Lebanon on the hands of the Shi'ite Amal gangs. We have to be transformed into children or simple-minded people to the extent that such silly excuses convince us."

And on the bombing of homes and the killing of civilians in the Iraq-Iran war, the leader of the revolution explained to JANA: "The bombing of homes and the killing of civilians, whether it is done by Iran or Iraq, is a cowardly act which the revolutionary forces and people's masses anywhere in the world denounce, for it is the same method Reagan and the Zionists use."

Radio Comments on 'Scandals' of Iranian Arms Deal

LD270046 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The U.S. Administration has not witnessed throughout its successive dark ages a darker stage than it is witnessing these days following the resounding international scandals brought about by the Mosad dog, Reagan, when he misled the pillars of his regime and disgraced them in a cheap way, leading them to the abyss of political disgrace, and then sat, destroyed, to reap what his hands had sown after the unearthing of the scandal and its spreading all over the world.

Once the bad smell had spread, every official in the Black House rushed to deny his relations with what was happening in secret, and the halls of the Black House, Congress, the National Security Council, the CIA, and the Pentagon witnessed unprecedented hysteria. There was a hot exchange of accusations, wholesale resignations, an open exchange of curses, beginning with the President and extending to those below him, and it seemed that the pillars of this house, which is nothing more than a sinkhole of corruption, began to crack as never before; the failed act totally collapsed, and all the experienced kitchen cabinets were unable to conceal this earth-shattering disaster which has hastened Reagan's end, 2 years before the end of his second term of office.

The behavior of this man indicates that he will lead his country to the abyss and that, contrary to all the illusions he was able to make the naive in his country believe in, he will lead his country to serious perils, he will strip it before the world, and he will lose what is left of its face, that is, if history has left it with any face, and if this face can actually feel embarrassed. The symbols of

U.S. policy, which is based on aggression and intrigue, stood together and passed one by one in front of the congressional Foreign Relations Committee and gave testimonies full of falsification and lies, and they were not slow in double-crossing each other, each trying to put the ball in the court of his colleague, but the eyes of the world which have been fixed on the United States since the scandal broke and which have been monitoring this big collapse, were taken by suprise by this big collapse which, contrary to all predictions, came too early. The national security adviser of the Mosad's dog resigned, and hardly had this news reached the world on the radio when it was followed by the news of the resignation of his assistant.

And the collapse continues. Radio stations are still on full alert, ready to report more resignations and to cover news of dismissals until the end comes with the fall of this failed act whose hands were stained with the blood of victims and the innocent and his face covered with the shame which he had brought upon the history of his nation. Thus he will go, being sent off with a curse, accompanied by the anger of millions all over the world, as the ugliest American to reach the presidency, and who gave an example of haphazardness, cowardice, and antipathy to the most serious issues of peace and security in the world which the peoples of the world are striving to achieve.

This is the comedy of the age, the most imaginative farce; writers cannot achieve this level of farce and ridicule played by Reagan and those with him on the stage of international politics. Reports continue to arrive of millions [of dollars] reaching the rightist gangs in Nicaragua provided by U.S. intelligence without anyone knowing about them and without even going back to Reagan himself, as he claimed today; and he washed his hands of these suspect deals. Thus no one knows anymore in the face of the contradictory statements where the truth ends and lies begin, or where lies end and truth begins. The scandal of this agreement and this generous spending on the rightist gangs in Nicaragua poured oil on the fire and further increased the repercussions of the scandal which has become more serious so quickly that it is difficult to follow its news in order.

In the face of this fever, one goes back to the analysis of the brother leader of the revolution when he reached the conviction that this man — and this is since the start of Reagan's first term of office — is no more than a joker, below the level of responsibility, and that the scandals which will explodein his era will be more resounding than any other scandals in the world. One goes back to the analysis of the leader of the revolution when he said at the start of Reagan's second term of office that the age of this man is not much more than the age of a chick hatched mechanically, and that his end will be bad. And here he is shaking even before the middle of his second term of office, and the predictions of the leader of the revolution concerning those who were transformed into animals and who are imposed on international politics, because they are predictions based on science and the revolutionary event, rightly diagnose the malady, and point with reason to the causes and the results which, if they do not happen today will happen tomorrow. [passage ommitted]

This is the inevitable end of every aggressor; history will have no mercy on him, nor will his people.

MOROCCO

Turkish Assembly Speaker Meets King Hassan

TA260848 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 2100 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Turkish Grand National Assembly Speaker Necmettin Karaduman, currently on a visit to Morocco at the head of a parliamentary delegation, has met with King Hassan II of Morocco. Turkish Radio and Television correspondent Senar Byburt reports from Rabat that during the meeting, Karaduman submitted to the king a verbal message from President Kenan Evren expressing his desire to visit Morocco. In response, King Hassan II said he would be happy to host the Turkish president in his country. He remarked that Turkey is strong enough to settle its differences with its neighboring countries.

Expressing his wish that relations between Turkey and Morocco be an example to other Islamic countries, the king said that these relations are rooted in history. He expressed his pleasure over Turkish moves toward restoring democracy, adding that he appreciates these efforts.

In turn, Karaduman pointed out that Turkey attaches great importance to the issue of democracy, which it considers a primordial process. He said that no political problems exist between the two countries, adding that he appreciates efforts by King Hassan II on behalf of the cause of peace.

Laraki Receives Danish Foreign Minister

LD270252 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Prime Minister Azzedine Laraki this evening received Danish Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen, who was accompanied by a delegation. Their talks, which were held in a friendly atmosphere, dealt with various political and economic topics of mutual interest. The two sides also reviewed the prospects for consolidating the cooperation between the two countries in all fields, and stressed their determination to expand the aspects of such cooperation. The talks also dealt with the international situation as well as the future of Morocco's relations with the ECC.

The meeting was attended by the prime minister's closest aides, the director of European and American affairs at the Foreign Ministry, and the Danish ambassador in Rabat.

SUDAN

Interior Minister Says Garang 'Seriously Wounded'

NC261556 Paris AFP in English 1446 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, Nov 26 (AFP) — Sudanese rebel leader John Garang has been "seriously wounded" in a fight with rival members of his Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), Sudanese Interior Minister Sayyid Ahad al-Husayn has said in a newspaper interview published in Egypt on Wednesday.

Mr. al-Husayn said Colonel Garang had "lost all support since elements loyal to him shot down an aircraft on August 16, killing 60 civilians."

The Sudan Air passenger plane was shot down over southern Sudan, where the SPLA is active.

There has been no reaction from the rebels on Mr. al-Husayn's interview, which was given during an official visit to Egypt. Mr. al-Husayn gave no indication of when the fight in which Mr Garang was allegedly wounded took place.

He said the SPLA would "be totally defeated in the end."

Ambassador to Ethiopia Says Garang Dead

JN262100 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 24 Nov 86 pp 1, 8

[Text] Khartoum — *Al-Ittihad* — In a statement to *Al-Ittihad*, Sudan's Ambassador to Ethiopia 'Uthman al-Nafi' has announced that Colonel John Garang, the rebel movement leader, was killed and that the reports he has received from Addis Ababa confirm this. Al-Nafi', who was summoned to Khartoum by his government, said that the movement's stalemate, its current military and political isolation, the splits within it, and the lack of news about Garang on the organization's radio confirm Garang's death.

John Garang's movement denied the death of its leader the day before yesterday and affirmed that he would hold a news conference in Addis Ababa in the near future.

Army Destroys Rebel Camp, Killing 86

EA262359 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 2130 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] The people's Armed Forces destroyed a rebel camp in Jur area, western Terakeka, when they attacked the camp last week. Eighty-six rebels, including the camp commander and three officers, were killed. A number of others were injured. Seven members of the Armed Forces were martyred in the battle. Large amounts of ammunition, Kalashnikov rifles, and other guns were captured.

Paper Cited on Al-Mahdi, Al-Turabi Meeting

JN261154 Khartoum SUNA in English 1030 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Khartoum Nov 26 (SUNA) — Negotiations between the government and the opposition led by the Islamic National Front on the national issues will soon be resumed, Premier al-Sadiq al-Mahdi told the daily *Al-Sudani* issued here today.

Al-Mahdi and leader of the Islamic National Front Hasan al-Turabi have conferred here and reviewed some national issues, among them the question of the southern Sudan and the implementation of Shari'a laws, but their talks were postponed due to the recent student demonstrations which were stirred by the Islamic National Front as official sources said.

The daily quoted Al-Mahdi as reaffirming the setback in the talks will not continue and the government will spare no effort in solving the national questions.

The prime minister pointed out that the government was waiting for the participation of all the political forces in the proposed constitutional conference, adding that "we expect the participation of all the political parties in solving the southern cause by presenting papers on the suitable means of holding the conference."

London Paper Interviews Interior Minister

PM261625 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 21 Nov 86 p 3

[Unattributed report on interview with Sayyid Ahmad al-Husayn, minister of interior and deputy secretary general of the Democratic Unionist Party, in Khartoum; date not given]

[Text] Khartoum, *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* bureau — Sayyid Ahmad al-Husayn, Sudanese minister of the interior and deputy secretary general of the Democratic Unionist Party, will shortly begin a tour to Egypt, Kuwait, and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. This tour was postponed because of the recent student incidents in Khartoum and because of other political and security issues. On this occasion *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* has conducted a comprehensive interview with Al-Husayn covering the tour, the student demonstrations, the controversial constitutional changes, and the security and political developments on the Sudanese borders. The following is the text of his talk about his expected visit to Saudi Arabia. He said: First, I must talk about Sudanese-Saudi relations in general; I would say that King Fahd gives special consideration to Sudan to a degree that makes me strongly believe that he stands by Sudan's side with heart and soul in everything. At the level of the Ministry of the Interior there is complete understanding between us and His Highness Prince Nayif Bin Abd al-Aziz, minister of the interior, and senior ministry officials, who devote all their attention to all the joint issues and have generously supported the Sudanese Ministry of the Interior in the past during the transitional period, and we are now expecting bigger support for reconstructing it.

Al-Husayn also said: The agreement between us on fighting smuggling, drugs, and crimes is complete and comprehensive, and an invitation was sent to me to visit the Kingdom which I will carry out after the return of Prince Nayif from his visit to France and following my visit to Egypt. Consultations will take place on everything of concern to both countries, and in addition we will implement all the agreed measures in respect of fighting smuggling.

On the recent student incidents Minister al-Husayn clarified that the demonstrations, which lasted for 4 days in different areas of the capital, had no justification at all. It is true that there are some shortages in some commodities such as meat and cigarettes, but there are reasons for these shortages, namely the government's concentration on the success of the agricultural season, which is an issue it has faced since its formation. The government had to concentrate its expenditure on providing agricultural crops and on pest control. We have already succeeded in providing a productive climate as more than 26 million feddans have been cultivated, and we have also managed to control locusts and other pests. The government has also concentrated on fighting the phenomenon of smuggling, so there are now no means available for smuggling any commodities into the country. These things are perhaps behind those shortages and among their causes. The government has decided to stop exporting so that the local market can provide the meat required, but there are some parties which want to fight the government and the public interest by trying to dry up the market of commodities and raise prices, using naive students to go out on demonstrations although those parties know that the country's interest requires supporting the government's stand, not attacking it. Undoubtedly, these parties, which are behind these demonstrations, are the remains of the toppled regime, as they want to confirm and solidly establish the hateful past. They even try to bring it back, but the government's eyes are watchful and watch those who agitate our students. Some of them have been arrested and the investigation is still being conducted.

On the criticisms directed at the bill of constitutional changes which the government intends to present to the Constitutional Assembly, he said that they are legitimate changes and do not harm or reduce public freedom but are intended to enable the legislative authority to remove the traces of the toppled regime and those who oppose the changes because they are unaware of their facts and essence. The changes are intended to remove the traces of May and to restore the usurped rights of the people by enabling the authorities to issue the necessary laws.

As for the effects of the incidents which took place among the Eritreans in the city of Kassala, the Sudanese minister of the interior said that the incident of the car explosion in Kassala is a transient matter and we have carried out all measures, investigations, and inquiries as the two Eritreans accused have admitted that they planned the incident and committed that crime. The investigation is still continuing to reveal whether there is another motive behind it. We have taken all precautions to prevent such acts from happening in the future. However, we will not allow Sudan to become a stage for settling disputes because it is in the Sudanese people's nature to avoid such terrorist acts, and the proof of this is the success of their revolution in October and April without any bloodshed worth mentioning. If this is the habit of the Sudanese people, there is no way they will allow their area to be used for settling disputes. As for organizing the refugees in camps, taking the measures necessary for this matter, which are not simple, requires many procedures and preparations before actually starting with these measures. Efforts are being made in this respect.

During his interview with *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* the Sudanese minister of the interior referred to developments on the various Sudanese borders, stressing that Sudan's firm policy is to work at all levels on the basis of good-neighborliness and this is what it always works for; but as for support and sponsorship for the rebel movement inside the Ethiopian territory, that is an act that contradicts this policy despite Sudan's endeavors to improve relations with the neighbor Ethiopia, although the Ethiopian-Sudanese Committee's meeting has been postponed by the Ethiopians. A new date has not yet been fixed but efforts are being made in this respect.

As for Uganda, mutual suspicions and accusations have been eliminated and the joint committees are now concentrating on carrying out their work, although we received notification of the postponement of the joint meetings which were to be held last month. This is because Uganda has declared mourning for the late Mozambican President Samora Machel. In fact the borders between the two countries have been open since my return from Uganda and since the committee for the control of borders commenced its duties. From our side, we have declared our readiness for returning the military helicopter with which some Ugandan military officials fled following President Museveni's seizure of power. A Ugandan mission actually came to Juba to collect it but the security conditions in the south did not permit it. That helicopter and other equipment are now avalable for the Ugandan Government to collect whenever it wants.

National Unionist Party Leader Attacked

JN261221 Khartoum SUNA in English 1050 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Khartoum, Nov 26 (SUNA) — The leader of the National Unionist Party 'Ali Mahmud Hasanayn was attacked last night at his house by an armed group in an attempt to assassinate him, the daily *Al-Sudani* paper reported today. The paper described the incident as "the first in political history."

The general director of the national capital Khartoum police headquarters told *Al-Sudani* that "the security forces have arrested the four-man armed group."

It is worth mentioning that Hasanayn is one of the widely famous advocators in the Sudan and a prominent unionist leader who was arrested several times by the overthrown government of Numayri for his anti-Numayri activities.

After April revolution in 1985 Hasanayn split from the Democratic Unionist Party, the counterpart of Al-Ummah Party in the coalition government founded by the late leader Isma'il al-Azhari.

WESTERN SAHARA

Polisario Warns EEC on Moroccan Fishing Agreement

LD262257 Paris International Service in French
1245 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] In the Western Sahara, a warning from the Polisario given to the countries of the EEC. Jean-Karim Fal reports:

[Fal] This warning by the Polisario Front is given to the EEC if the latter signs a fishing agreement with Morocco, which includes the territorial waters of the Western Sahara. The Polisario makes it clear that it will attack boats that come close to the Saharan coast. This warning is included in a letter from SDAR President Mohamed Abdelaziz addressed to the EEC ministers.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Receives Message From Al-Qadhdhafi

EA270000 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the WPE Central Committee, chairman of the PMAC and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, today received a message from Brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great al-Fatih revolution of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. The message from Brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi was presented to the comrade secretary general of the People's Committee for Public Service during a meeting held at the WPE secretary general's special office this morning.

The meeting was attended by Comrade Berhanu Bayeh, member of the WPE Central Committee Politburo and foreign minister, and Brother Khalifa Bazelya, secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau in Revolutionary Ethiopia.

Eritreans Claim 10 Ethiopian Soldiers Killed

EA251237 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Amharic 0500 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] The heroic combatants of our engineering corps have blown up four Dergue vehicles. Two of the vehicles were destroyed near (Azreket). Five of the soldiers inside the vehicles were killed and five others were wounded. The other two vehicles were destroyed on the left flank of the Nakfa front and between Hargigo and (Gedem). Five of the soldiers in those two vehicles were killed and seven others were wounded.

SOMALIA

DFSS Meeting Ends; Executive Committee Changed

EA281147 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1700 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Excerpts] The first session of the DFSS [Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia] Central Committee meeting at its central headquarters ended officially 26 November. The meeting began 11 November and lasted 15 days. During this time proposals were debated honestly and with special dynamism. The participants tried their best to endorse resolutions that will serve the best interests of the struggle. During the meeting the DFSS Executive Committee was changed.

The meeting passed resolutions to intensify the political and armed struggle to save the Somali nation, which is on the brink of collapse. It called on all the Somali people to play their sacred role. It appealed to the Somali opposition forces to tackle as soon as possible the ever-increasing problems being caused inside the country by Mohammad Siad Barre's regime. It called on them to do their best to unify unconditionally the Somali opposition forces made up of the SNM [Somali National Movement] and the DFSS. The DFSS Central Committee members unanimously called for the immediate implementation of this merger. [passage omitted]

During the meeting all the Executive Committee members were changed with the exception of the chairman and deputy chairman. The following appointments were made:

DFSS Chairman Dr Hasan Haji Ali Mire also becomes secretary of defense.
Abdullahi Haji Ilmi becomes secretary of foreign affairs.
Mohamed Ismail Baribari becomes secretary of information.
Hassan Ali Yusuf Garabey becomes secretary of justice and religious affairs.
Abd al-Razaq Shaykh Ahmad Ali becomes secretary of political and mobilization affairs.
Nur Adam Yusuf Gadhwene becomes secretary of financial affairs.
Dr Bashir Ali Bihi becomes secretary of social affairs.
The officials in charge of (?stores) were also changed: Abdullahi Haji Ahmad HABEB becomes the new secretary and Abd al-Rahman Shire Warsame becomes his assistant.

God willing, we will inform you in detail of the other resolutions passed.

Radio Halgan Reports Recent SNM Operations

EA250100 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1700 GMT 24 Nov 86

[Text] SNM [Somali National Movement] fighters have carried out a number of operations inside the country over the past few weeks. Four soldiers and one officer serving in forces loyal to the regime at Aubakhadleh village in Hargeisa district were killed on 21 November. These SNM units had earlier fought battles at Goo village in Sheeleh district, Togdheer region and at Odweyne town, also in Togdheer region. The fighting took place on the 11th of this month. Heavy losses were inflicted on the regime's soldiers. Reports from the eastern wing say that the fighters returned safely. Three soldiers belonging to forces loyal to the regime were killed and six others were injured when SNM fighters in the south western regions launched an attack on the (Dido Ano) village base in Lugh district of Gedo region on 9 November.

UGANDA

NRA Commander Cites Heavy Rebel Casualties

EA251236 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Commander Elly Tumwine of the National Resistance Army, NRA, says the current NRA offensive in northern Uganda has caused heavy casualties among the rebels and severely reduced their military capacity. Talking with the *New Vision* newspaper, Commander Tumwine further disclosed that preparations are underway to deal effectively with the disturbances in northeastern Uganda. The NRA chief confirmed the departure of the British military training team and said the Tanzanian Army will now be assisting with some special training. Some army personnel will also be sent to Kenya for training.

CAMEROON

PRC Government Delegation Arrives for Visit

AB262151 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] A Chinese Government delegation led by PRC State Council Councillor Zhang Jingfu arrived in Yaounde this afternoon at the invitation of the president. This Chinese delegation, which will spend 4 days in Cameroon, was welcomed at the capital's airport by Cameroonian foreign affairs and plan ministers.

CONGO

Cooperation Discussed With Iranian Minister

AB251655 Dakar PANA in French 1306 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Brazzaville, 25 Nov (ACI/PANA) — Mojaba Mirmehdi, Iranian deputy minister of foreign affairs, held discussions on Tuesday in Brazzaville with Antoine Odinga-Oba, Congolese minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, on the possibilities for bilateral cooperation.

The conclusion of the visit by the Iranian deputy minister, who arrived in the Congolese capital on Monday, will be crowned on Tuesday evening by a joint statement.

Iran's Mirmehdi Conveys Message

LD271251 Tehran IRNA in English 0609 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Tehran, Nov 27, IRNA — Iran's deputy foreign minister for legal and parliamentary affairs, Mojaba Mirmehdi, conveyed the oral message of Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi to his Congolese counterpart, Ange Edouard Poungui in Brazzavile Tuesday.

During the meeting, the Congolese prime minister praised Iran's role in supporting liberation campaigns in Africa.

Issues of mutual interest and regional and international events were also discussed in the meeting.

Mirmehdi, heading a delegation, left Tehran for a number of East African countries on Nov. 13.

BURKINA FASO

CNR National General Secretariat Reorganized

AB261432 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
0700 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] After 3 years of operation, the National General Secretariat of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR's] has just been reorganized. Under a decree passed by the CNR [National Council of the Revolution] and aimed at achieving three main objectives — namely the efficiency, rationality, and smooth operation of the organization — the body has been reorganized to make it a more effective fighting tool. Here is Captain Pierre Ouedraogo, CDR national secretary general, with the details:

[Begin Ouedraogo recording] The National General Secretariat of CDR's shall now comprise seven political commissioner's offices, a General Inspectorate, and national bureaus.

The political commissioner's offices include the following: The office in charge of popular war, CPGP; the office in charge of agitation and propaganda, CPAP; the office in charge of organization and planning, CPOP; the office in charge of youth activities, CPAJ; the office in charge of external relations, CPRE; the office in charge of economic and social affairs, CPES; and the office in charge of administration and finance, CPAF.

With these seven offices, the CDR National General Secretariat will become a leading body which will initiate and coordinate CDR activities.

The General Inspectorate will enable the National General Secretariat to efficiently play its supervisory role, a role which was called for during the first national conference.

The CDR charter, drawn up on 17 May 1984, did not clarify the function of national bureaus. Their incorporation in the CDR National General Secretariat will solve the problem of coordination and enable their members to participate effectively in the coordination of the activities of the CDR's at the national level. In its new organization, the National General Secretariat, which is the expression of the people's will as stated during the first national conference, will be a decisive asset which will help bring about the expected qualitative change in our revolutionary reorganization at all levels of CDR actions. This will thus eliminate the shortcomings of the current organization which is outdated and enable us to translate into facts the legitimate expectations of the masses. The economic power and the judiciary will thus be fully taken care of. [end recording]

OAU Secretary General Returns; Meets Sankara

AB271055 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
2200 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Thomas Sankara, CNR chairman and president of Burkina Faso, received an OAU delegation this evening led by Secretary General Ide Oumarou. This delegation had already been received last Friday by the CNR chairman and president of Burkina Faso in the framework of the inquiry into the recent events in Togo for which the Togolese authorities have held Burkina Faso and Ghana responsible. From Burkina Faso the delegation went to Accra, Ghana, and Lome, Togo. After the meeting, OAU Secretary General Ide Oumarou told our reporter Colette Tapsoba why his delegation returned to Burkina Faso after its recent visit last Friday.

[Begin Oumarou recording] We are on a mission you already know about. As usual it is a very delicate mission. In view of the present stage of events, President Sankara felt it would be useful for the clarification of Burkina Faso's stand to give us additional facts for our file, and we are very grateful for that. He reasserted his belief in the ability of the OAU to settle the matter and reassured us of his readiness and that of his government and country to strive for peace. This is the assurance he wanted to give us.

I would therefore like to seize this opportunity to say how much we of the OAU appreciate this act of faith. We have prepared a report for the current OAU chairman and, as I said earlier, all the facts have been put together to enable us to determine in what way the OAU can dutifully strive to restore peace to the various parts of Africa and to calm the minds of all to enable our people and governments to fulfill their major task of ensuring the development of our people, and the achievement of independence in political, economic, and other spheres in order to build societies in Africa that are worthy of our aspirations and ambitions. [end recording]

FRG Ambassador Presents Materiel to Armed Forces

AB251640 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
1300 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Cooperation between Burkina Faso and West Germany was enhanced this morning with the presentation of materiel to the military engineering department. The consignment is made up of 25 transport vehicles, engineering equipment made up of tankers, as well as drugs and hospital bedding, all valued at 250 million CFA francs.

While presenting the consignment to the commander of the High Command of the People's Armed Forces, the FRG ambassador expressed the hope that the Burkinabe people will put it to good use. [passage omitted]

GHANA

Cooperation Agreement With Cuba Ratified

AB261417 Accra Domestic Service in English
1300 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Ghana and Cuba have signed and exchanged instruments of ratification on the joint commission for cooperation between them. The chairman of the State Commission for Economic Cooperation, Dr Don Arthur, and the Cuban ambassador to Ghana, Mr Nicolas Rodriguez, signed the agreement in Accra this morning.

Dr Don Arthur said the ceremony marked a concrete step by the two countries to ensure an effective and dynamic cooperation. It completes the legal formalities between them, thus strengthening the basic framework within which they will continue meaningful cooperation in the economic, scientific, technical, and cultural fields. Dr Don Arthur noted that Ghana, like Cuba, is exposed to the unfavorable world environment which had imposed severe economic constraints on her development efforts. He said with these external factors, coupled with the unjust international economic system, it has become imperative for Third World countries to evolve effective measures for collective self-reliance and forge closer economic, technical, and cultural ties among themselves. Dr Don Arthur said the successes so far achieved through the cooperation of the two countries in the fields of education and health are clear indications of their capabilities to meet their aspirations.

Mr Rodrigues on his part was also satisfied with the extent of cooperation between Ghana and Cuba. He announced that three constructional firms have arrived in Ghana to construct prefabricated houses. He expressed the hope that it will not be long when Ghanaians would benefit from cheaper methods of construction. The ambassador disclosed that during the first quarter of next year, several projects currently under discussion will be submitted for approval at the third meeting of the joint commission for cooperation in Havana, Cuba. He emphasized Cuba's readiness to assist Ghana achieve success in her economic, scientific, and technical development.

OAU Secretary General, Delegation Arrive

AB251830 Accra Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] The OAU secretary general, Mr Ide Oumarou, arrived in Accra today for a 2-day goodwill visit to the country. Speaking to newsmen, Mr Oumarou said the visit is part of a series being undertaken by the secretariat to foster closer links among member-countries. Mr Oumarou said he has also visited Burkina Faso where he had talks with government officials, following Togo's recent accusation that Ghana and some neighboring countries were involved in a plot to destabilize her.

The OAU secretary general said it is vital for African countries to resove all misunderstandings within the context of good-neighborliness. The OAU secretary general said by complementing their resources, African countries can present a solid front to face their economic as well as political problems.

Received by Obed Asamoah

AB261410 Accra Domestic Service in English
1300 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] The OAU secretary general, Mr Ide Oumarou, now on a 2-day official visit to Ghana, this morning called on the secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, in Accra. During discussions, Mr Oumarou explained that his visit is part of a tour of OAU member-countries to discuss problems facing the continent. He said because of certain occurrences in Africa, it has not been possible for him to visit Ghana since he took office last year. The secretary general, who is leading a 5-man delegation, said the team will hold talks on relevant issues affecting member-countries and the world at large.

On his part, Dr Obed Asamoah said the government and people of Ghana consider his visit as a unique opportunity to exchange views on problems affecting the OAU and Africa. He expressed the hope that their discussions would be of benefit to Ghana as well as the OAU.

Rawlings Meets With Oumarou

AB261929 Accra Domestic Service in English
2000 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] The chairman of the PNDC [Provisional Natinal Defense Council], Flight-Lieutenant Rawlings, has stressed the need for open communication between African leaders. He said the OAU should also devise a means of direct contact with not only the government, but also the peoples of Africa. Chairman Rawlings made these calls when a 5-man OAU delegation led by the organization's secretary general, Ide Oumarou, called on him at the Castle today. The delegation's visit forms part of efforts by the OAU to mediate in the misunderstanding between Ghana and Burkina Faso on one hand, and Togo on the other, following Togolese allegations that the two countries were involved in an attempt to overthrow President Eyadema last September. Ghana and Burkina Faso have firmly rejected the allegations as incorrect and inconceivable. Chairman Rawlings said in the event of any misunderstanding between African countries, Africa needs bold and courageous leaders to address such issues frankly and without hiding the facts. He said one of the root causes of such situations is an imbalanced domestic policy pursued by these countries, which bring unfounded allegations against their neighbors. He said Ghana is prepared to open her borders for any African leader to visit the country to ascertain the truth for himself. Ghana is even ready to open her prison houses for any independent observer to come and verify allegations of arbitrary arrests and detention of both Ghanaians and foreign nationals being leveled against Ghana by Togo, and he challenged Togo to do the same in the face of similar allegations in international circles against her. Flight Lieutenant Rawlings said African leaders are to be blamed for the current situation on the continent, especially the situation in southern Africa and Africa's shattered economy. Chairman Rawlings was of the view that the help Africa needs under the circumstances must come from Africa itself.

Replying, Mr Oumarou expressed the desire of the OAU to help reestablish harmony between Ghana, Burkina Faso, and Togo. He said his delegation is in the country only on a fact-finding mission and not to undertake any legal inquiry. Mr Oumarou said such missions should be considered as the OAU's duty towards its members. He said it is important for the OAU to be informed about developments between its members and be able to formulate guidelines regarding the resolution of future tensions. Mr Oumarou pledged the OAU's determination to address the challenge facing the African Continent. He regretted that OAU member-countries come together to sign strong-worded resolutions only to forget about them soon after signing and he called on African countries to close their ranks for a meaningful development of the continent. Mr Oumarou and his entourage has since flown back to Ouagadougou.

BBC, VOA Scored for Announcing Kim Il-song Death

AB251233 Accra Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 21 Nov 86

[Commentary by A.B.A. Fusseini, "a national serviceman"]

[Text] Early on Monday, 17 November 1986, the broadcasting stations of some Western countries — namely the BBC, the Voice of America, etc — announced the death of Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of the Korean people and a staunch ally of oppressed and exploited people the world over.

The BBC and the Voice of America attributed their reports to the South Korean defense minister, who they said obtained his information from inside the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The exposure of this blatant lie came only shortly after this announcement had been made when President Kim Il-song, very much alive and kicking, and in the best of health and spirit, personally received a delegation from the People's Republic of Mongolia in Pyongyang.

The motive behind this report as well as its timing is of considerable significance given the intense campaign of disinformation unleashed by some imperialist powers on progressive countries and their leaders, the aggravation of tension in the Korean peninsula, and the global quest by imperialism to control and dominate the world.

Even though it is an open secret that the imperialist powers do not wish to see anything good about the progressive Democratic People's Republic of Korea under the able and dynamic leadership of Comrade Kim Il-song, one would have at least expected their media, which they claim to be objective and fair, to clearly verify the truth or otherwise of this report before going ahead to announce it to the whole world. Again, one would also have expected the VOA and BBC, which gave this report the headlines, to do likewise by telling the world that their early report amounted to nothing more than an orchestrated lie and the wishful thinking of some misguided and reactionary elements.

The fact that these very media are now maintaining a deadly silence over this issue points to the fact that the report was (?brooded) by a sinister ulterior motive. It is now clear that the forces which concocted and peddled these vicious lies not only wanted the propaganda value and the advantage associated with the use of media in international politics, but also, and more importantly, sought the political advantage, that of proving the strength and invincibility of their system, and therefore their logical and divine right to dominate the world.

This, among other things, was expected to sow the seeds of confusion and hysteria among the people of the DPRK, within their party and the political system, and overthrow and integrate the north into their orbit of domination. This is also intended to create an aura of insecurity in the hearts and minds of other progressive leaders and their people and then thus intimidate them into submitting to imperialist domination. This should be especially noted given the recent numerous attempts on the lives of progressive and anti-imperialist leaders around the world and the crusade of disinformation unleashed on them.

This calls for more vigilance and rededication to the anti-imperialist cause by progressive leaders and their people and the closing of ranks by all popular forces to meet this dastardly conspiracy and crime.

The call by the Libyan leader, Brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, for a common, coordinated front to serve as a bulwark against imperialist destabilization of the progressive and peace-loving world in general, and the nonaligned nations in particular, is more relevant and necessary now than at any other time. These disinformation campaigns, threats, and assassinations of progressive leaders should be confronted positively and routed without ever giving them any chance to resurface, let alone succeed.

LIBERIA

Firestone Fires 5,000 as 'Cost-Saving Measure'

AB261427 Paris AFP in English 1351 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Monrovia, Nov 25 (AFP) — The U.S.-run Firestone rubber plantation in Liberia — the largest such unit in the world — has sacked more than 5,000 of its employees, citing cost-saving measures and the decline in the price of rubber on the world market, it was reported here on Tuesday [25 November].

The independent *Daily Observer* newspaper quoted Firestone spokesman S. Barbell as saying the move was necessary in order for the country to "remain viable."

He said the company was going through financial crises, adding "as the price of oil declines, so does the price of rubber, leaving us with no alternative but to reconstruct the entire process."

The sacked employees, mostly Liberians, have dismissed the company's reasons to make them redundant, describing the move as "discriminatory and racist, with insensitivity to the needs of Liberian workers."

They said management had mainly sacked local staff, while "expatriates were left untouched." The company has denied the charge.

Firestone has been cultivating rubber on one million acres 400,000 hectares of land in Liberia since 1926.

In a related development, Liberia's largest iron ore mining company LAMCO has sacked 98 per cent of the employees of its two hospitals in the country, following an agreement with the Swedish Health Ministry to take them over.

LAMCO cited financial difficulties as reasons for the decision. Officials said the move affected both Liberian and foreign doctors and nurses.

LAP Responds to Appeal for Reconciliation Talks

AB251825 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1710 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] In its response to many appeals to return to the national reconciliation talks, the Liberian Action Party, LAP, has clarified that in accordance with the Constitution of Liberia, all power is inherent in the people and not in the force of arms and fire power, nor in the threat of violence and war. LAP said violence is not the solution to national crisis.

Speaking at a press conference this morning at the Monrovia City Hall, the chairman of LAP, Counsellor Emmanuel Kromah, said the party believes that the nobility of any society is especially incarnated and made manifest to the world in the personal example of its public leaders and public servants. Reiterating LAP's initial proposal at the reconciliation talks with the goodwill ambassadors, Chairman Kromah said the party suggested these preliminary actions in order to [words indistinct] conducive political atmosphere for meaningful dialogue and full consultations. He said they were also intended to provide full participation in these talks by the Liberia Unification Party, the Unity Party, the National Democratic Party of Liberia, and the Liberia Council of Churches, as well as the LAP itself.

MALI

Foreign Minister Leaves for Iran 24 Nov

AB250859 Bamako Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Modibo Keita, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, left Bamako last night for Tehran, Iran. He was accompanied by Bakari Drame, Malian ambassador to Iran resident in Tripoli, and several other top-ranking officials of his department. They are on an official visit to that country from 24 to 29 November 1986.

The delegation will return to Bamako on 29 November.

ANGOLA

Rebels Claim Key Railway Town Recaptured

HK280444 Hong Kong AFP in English 0441 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Lisbon, Nov 28 (AFP) — South African and U.S.-backed Angolan anti-government rebels said Thursday they had retaken the town of Kamgumbe, in eastern Angola, enabling them to control movement along the Benguela railway, which normally links neighbouring Zaire to the sea.

The rebel communique, received here, noted that the "frontline" states were trying to reopen the railway. Kamgumbe was occupied by government forces in June.

Luanda Curfew Lifted for 28, 29 Nov

MB280559 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] According to a communique issued by the Ministry of Defense, curfew in the city of Luanda has been lifted for today and tomorrow so that the residents may joyfully join in the traditional day of the Island celebrations.

Malawi's Explanation of Minister's Plane Discounted

MB271111 Dakar PANA in English 1103 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Lusaka, 27 Nov (ZANA/PANA) — Angola has dismissed as insufficient the reason advanced by Malawi for turning back a VIP plane carrying Angolan Defence Minister Pedro Tonha and some top officials to a SADCC meeting in Tanzania.

A statement released by the Angolan Embassy in Lusaka, Malawi has been asked to indicate if official permission was required by fellow SADCC countries before they could fly over her territory. [sentence as received]

The Angolan VIP plane was ordered back when it entered Malawian air space after leaving Zambia last week, and the only explanation received so far from Malawi's envoy in Luanda is that Malawi President Kamuzu Banda was touring the country at the time.

Angola has, however, dismissed the explanation and asked Malawi to indicate in time whether official permission is required before entering Malawian airspace because the officials risked their lives by turning back half way from the destination with insufficient fuel.

[Words indistinct] took such an action because as members of SADCC both countries were committed to contributing to development of the sovereign states in the region.

It said the VIP plane took the (?same) route which has been used for years and the order took the crew by surprise because Angola has no intention of violating any independent sovereign member states airspace. Angola has said that the plane returned safely by luck and with the support of the Zambian air force and the aircraft crew. The SADCC defence meeting to which Tonha was travelling in Dar es Salaam groups Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Malawi.

Cooperation Memorandum Signed With Bulgaria

MB261446 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] A memorandum on strengthening cooperation between Angola and Bulgaria in the field of social welfare was signed in Luanda today. The document was signed by Rodeth dos Santos, member of of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee and secretary of state for social affairs, and Grigor Dimitrov, deputy chairman of the Bulgarian Committee for Labor and Social Work, who headed the Bulgarian delegation to our coutnry.

The Bulgarian delegation visted Angola from 19 to 26 November and toured several child care institutions and social welfare centers where it learned about the assistance being provided to children, working mothers, war orphans, elderly people and the disabled, and the shortcomings faced by the People's Republic of Angola. The delegation expressed its solidarity with the Angolan people, the victims of continued aggression by imperialism and its lackeys, and support for the application of general and mandatory economic sanctions against racist South Africa, in order to accelerate the eradication of apartheid.

A final communique issued at the end of the friendly working visit by the Bulgarian delegation says that the two sides agreed to continue the existing cooperation to strengthen the links of friendship through the exchange of delegations and accords in the field of labor and social welfare. The Bulgarian delegation leaves Luanda later today.

Labor Delegation Departs for Talks in GDR

MB271458 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] The People's Republic of Angola and the GDR are going to renew an existing agreement on temporary jobs and profession qualification of Angolan citizens working in that country. The Angolan minister of labor and social security, Comrade Diogo Jorge de Jesus, leaves Luanda tonight for Berlin heading an important delegation of his ministry where he will stay for about 10 days. In Berlin, the Angolan delegation will also review with the German officials the results of the agreement that has now expired.

BOTSWANA

Government Declines RSA Invitation on Terrorist

MB271204 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1110 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] The Botswana Government has turned down an invitation from South Africa to send senior government officials to Pretoria to interview an alleged African National Congress captive who claims to have been operating from Botswana.

In an interview with the *Botswana Press Agency* in Gaborone yesterday, the minister of external affairs, Dr Gaositwe Chiepe, dismissed South African press reports that Botswana had failed to respond to Pretoria's invitation. The report was carried in a South African newspaper, *The Citizen*, which normally reflects the thinking of tHE Pretoria government.

Dr Chiepe, who said the visit by Botswana Government representatives to Pretoria would not serve any purpose, said the invitation was received on Monday and the response was telexed to Pretoria the same day. She said in the response that Botswana had made it clear to Pretoria that there was no purpose in the officials going to South Africa and coming back to investigate allegations made by South Africa's media about the ailleged ANC captive, known only by the name of Junior.

The minister said Botswana had requested South Africa to supply Botswana with details of Junior's account for investigation.

In his invitation, South Africa's foreign minister, Mr Pik Botha, said Botswana should send its security officials to interview Junior in the presence of the South African police.

Dr Chiepe reiterated Botswana's long [words indistinct] of not allowing anybody to use the country as a launching pad for attacks against its neighbors.

MOZAMBIQUE

Malawi Official Arrives on 'Good-Will Mission'

MB261126 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] John Tembo, a prominent official in the Malawian Government, arrived in Maputo this morning on what he described as a good-will mission. John Tembo was welcomed by Armando Guebuza, member of the Frelimo Party Political Bureau, at Maputo Airport. Also this morning, John Tembo was received in audience by Joaquim Alberto Chissano, the president of the republic.

President Demands Malawi Action

MB262021 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] President Joaquim Chissano has called on Malawi to go beyond simple declarations that it doesn't support the South African-backed MNR bandits. Speaking today in Maputo when he received a special delegation from Malawi, President Chissano said that Malawi should help to create conditions of security in the region. He said he had agreed to receive the Malawian delegation without [words indistinct] because Malawi and Mozambique are living through a series of serious problems. The Mozambican leader went on to say that Mozambique had worked hard to overcome these difficulties. Eventually, the two governments had opened embassies in each of the two countries. President Chissano said that by opening embassies in Maputo and Lilongwe, the two countries hoped a strong relationship would have developed. The president said the problems were not totally solved and efforts were culminated with the visit by the late President Samora Machel to Malawi in 1984.

From that visit, President Chissano said, Mozambique expected better results. He pointed out that what has happened since an agreement was signed between the two countries has not facilitated the establishment of the desired type of relations. President Chissano said the Mozambican Government is aware that the enemies of peace, stability, and development in Mozambique have done everything they could to hinder these relations. He said he didn't want to discuss matters which fell more correctly within the competence of the Mozambique-Malawi joint security commission.

When Malawi says it will never support the bandits, we take it into consideration, President Chissano said, but we will ask Malawi to go beyond this declaration and create conditions of security. He warned that the two countries should not disguise the problems that exist but face them with courage.

The Malawian delegation at today's meeting was led by John Tembo, a member of the Executive Committee of the Malawi Congress Party. Mr Tembo delivered a special message to President Chissano from the life president of Malawi, Kamuzu Banda. Once again, Mr Tembo denied his country's links with MNR bandits. The Malawian delegation returned home this afternoon.

Chissano Proposes Federation With Zimbabwe

MB280732 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0700 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Mozambique's new leader has put forward the idea of a federation between his country and Zimbabwe. Joaquim Chissano's remarks concerning a possible federation came in an interview in Zimbabwe's main daily newspaper, *The Herald*. Howard Barrell has the story.

[Barrell] Chissano steered clear in the interview of actually calling for a federation between Mozambique and Zimbabwe. Rather, he floated the idea as a possible distant, though desirable, consequences of increased economic, political, and military cooperation. Real federation would be possible only when there were no differences between the two countries, he added. Observers believe both countries could eventually benefit from such a federation. What is now Zimbabwe could have regular access to Mozambican ports, and Mozambique could share in Zimbabwe's far greater wealth. A federal unit could also counterbalance to some extent South Africa's vast power in the region. The historic links between the two countries' ruling parties are warm and go back some 15 years. An estimated 6,000 Zimbabwean troops are currently in Mozambique, helping Frelimo fight the MNR.

MNR 'Terrorists' Intercepted Near Maputo

MB261921 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
1800 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Special units of the Mozambican police force successfully intercepted a group of South Africa's MNR terrorists in a residential area near Maputo city last night. In the ensuing clash at least four terrorists were killed.

The bandits have managed to infiltrate the Liberdade residential area of Matola, west of Maputo, at about 1030 last night. They were detected while attempting to kidnap residents and to rob a consumer cooperative.

When the terrorists were pushed back, they opened fire indiscriminately against houses injuring a pregnant woman in her back. Two terrorists, including the head of the group, were killed on the spot while trying to breaking into the consumer cooperative. The other two were killed later.

A number of weapons including semi-automatic rifles and explosives were captured by the Mozambican rapid intervention police force, which is stationed in the Matola area.

Mozambique's minister of interior, Manuel Antonio, visited the scene of the fighting this morning. He spoke at length with the residents and appealed that they should maintain high vigilance. The minister said the residents should also inform defense and security forces about any strange movements in the area.

Cooperation Agreement With France Signed

MB280754 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0400 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] In Maputo yesterday, Mozambique and France agreed to strengthen bilateral cooperation in the technical and scientific fields. Within the terms of agreements signed after talks between the two countries, which began last Tuesday, France is expected to finace the second phase of rehabilitating the TEXLOM [Mozambique Textile] factory and a study aimed at encouraging cotton planting in Nampula Province. Financing will also be directed at the collective and industrial fishing sectors.

The agreements were signed on the Mozambican side by Francisco Caravela, secretary of state for light industry, and (Jacques Lareau), director for scientific cooperation in the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

SOUTH AFRICA

Commentary Supports 'Good Friend' Reagan in Crisis

MB270528 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] Few world leaders are as vehemently anti-American as the Ayatollah Khomenei. The Ayatollah, now 86 years of age, took over Iran in 1979, replacing the shah's pro-Western government with one which is consistently hostile to the United States.

Eighteen months ago, Washington received information that certain Iranian leaders who were among those in line to succeed the Ayatollah were willing to moderate their governemnt's fierce anti-Americanism. President Reagan thereupon decided to open a dialogue with the Iranians and authorized arms exports to Iran in order to promote the dialogue process. This secret operation has now been exposed and two major matters of policy and principle have been raised as a result.

The first concerns United States legislation that prohibits substantial arms exports without Congress being notified. President Reagan maintains that he authorized the transfer of only small amounts of defensive weapons and spare parts for defensive systems. Critics say that, if arms supplies to Iran via a third country, Israel, are taken into account, the exports were substantial and therefore in violation of American legislation.

The second issue is whether the arms transfers were intended to be part of a deal under which Americans held hostage in the Lebanon by pro-Iranian groups would be released. Mr Reagan insists that this was not the case and that the dialogue exercise and initiatives for the release of the hostages were undertaken in two separate sets of negotiation. Critics believe there was a direct connection.

During the arms deal, up to $30 million received from Iran in payment for arms supplies was improperly transferred to American-backed freedom fighters in Nicaragua.

These revelations — and the fact that key officials will be leaving the Reagan administration — will inevitably weaken the credibility of that administration, already smarting under the Congressional rebuff on the sanctions issue, the Democratic Party's victory in the Senate elections, and the disclosure of a disinformation campaign against Libya. Further pressures on the Reagan administration can be expected in January when the Democratic Party takes over formal control of the Senate and investigates the Iranian arms deal.

On the international level, Mr Reagan has campaigned vigorously for interstate cooperation against terrorism and, specifically, for an arms embargo against Iran because of her promotion of terrorism. To the extent that he is perceived to have authorised the arms exports in an attempt to have terrorists free their American hostages, his credibility will also suffer in, particularly, Western Europe and moderate Arab states, such as Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

President Reagan, as distinct from the majority of his legislators, has been a good friend of South Africans, who will sympathize with him and wish him well in his present crisis and in the last two years of his presidency.

Commentary Traces Pattern in Area Destabilization

MB280525 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] In the past 6 years, the number of combat aircraft in the Angolan Air Force has trebled, to 92. The number of helicopters stands at 113, five times the number in 1980. Angola's ground forces have risen over the past 6 years from 86,000 to 142,000.

The pattern is repeated in Mozambique, where ground forces have increased alarmingly, as have the number of armored vehicles, combat aircraft, and helicopter gunships.

This buildup of military power has one common denominator: Arms supplies to both Angola and Mozambique are from communist sources. Zimbabwe has also stepped up her intake of communist armaments recently.

The infusion of communist military hardware has created considerable destabilization in southern Africa. In the case of Angola and Mozambique, it is perpetuating the destabilisation caused by the civil wars in those countries.

Destabilization is also being exported. Destabilization in Mozambique, for example, has affected four neighboring states: Zimbabwe and Tanzania, which have commited troops to the civil war in Mozambique; Malawi, which has been accused by Mozambique of supporting Renamo and been threatened with retaliatory action; and South Africa, which has had to cope with thousands of illegal immigrants fleeing from the strife in Mozambique.

Destabilization feeds on itself. It has spread to Botswana, where, for some years, sanctuary has been given to ANC terrorists and infiltration routes have been provided for terror attacks against the peoples of South Africa. The president of that country, Dr Quett Masire, has sought to camouflage his government's involvement in destabilization and support for terrorism by repeating the hoary accusation taht South Africa is planning aggression against her neighbours. Yet, when the chips are down, and South Africa offers President Masire concrete evidence of Botswana's support for ANC terrorism through the testimony of an ANC agent, Botswana refuses to listen to the truth — or to act upon it.

The dangerous game of destabilization contrasts sharply with the commitment of other southern African countries to the promotion of stable conditisons in the subcontinent through regional co-operation. Swaziland and the new government of Lesotho have, in particular, voted for friendship with South Africa through formal treaties and other forms of cooperation. This has been exemplified by the agreement concluded this week for the sale of 30,000 tons of South African maize to Lesotho.

It is this form of cooperation — not participation in destabilization — that signposts the road to stability and progress in southern Africa.

Pik Botha Says Red Cross To Continue Presence in RSA

MB261733 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1727 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Pretoria Nov 26 SAPA -- The government has decided to allow the International Red Cross to continue its presence in South Africa, "in the light of the clear stand taken in this matter by the president of the ICRC," the foreign minister, Mr Pik Botha, announced tonight. In a statement in Pretoria, he said the ICRC would also continue operating in SWA/Namibia.

Mr Botha said: (Text) It will be recalled that the South African Government, following the illegal suspension of its right to participate in the 25th international conference of the Red Cross recently, decided to suspend the representation of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in South Africa and to request the delegation of the ICRC in South Africa to leave the country by November 30.

In a letter dated November 18 to the South African state president, the president of the ICRC made representations to the South African Government to be allowed to continue the activities of the ICRC in southern Africa from their offices in South Africa.

In his communication to the state president, the president of the ICRC emphasised that the ICRC disassociates itself from the decision taken to suspend South Africa's right to participate in the recent International Red Cross conference.

He also categorically confirmed that the ICRC will continue to uphold South Africa's rights in terms of the statutes of the International Red Cross and will actively support South Africa's continued participation in the activities and conferences of the International Red Cross.

He states that every state party to the Geneva Conventions is by right a member of the Conference of the Red Cross. Therefore the suspension of a member state runs counter to the statutes as they stand.

He declared that the ICRC will uphold the universality of international humanitarian law and respect for the rules and procedures of conferences of the International Red Cross.

The ICRC further informed the South African Government that it will continue to support the South African Red Cross Society without reserve.

In the light of the clear stand taken in this matter by the president of the ICRC, the government has decided to allow the ICRC to continue its presence in South Africa.

As far as the presence of the ICRC in SWA/Namibia is concerned, the South African Government has consulted the transitional government of national unity [TGNU] of the territory. The TGNU has now informed the government that it is prepared to allow the ICRC to continue with its activities in SWA/Namibia.

Since it is the policy of the South African Government to be guided by the wishes of the leaders of the territory in regard to decision affecting SWA/Namibia, the government accepts the decision of the TGNU in this regard. (ends text)

Pik Botha Regrets Botswana Refusal Over ANC Claims

MB271937 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1800 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] The Department of Foreign Affairs has reacted to Botswana's decision not to accept its invitation to interrogate an ANC terrorist captured by the South African security forces. The minister of foreign affairs Mr Pik Botha, said he is sorry that the Botswana Government is not ready to make use ofthe opportunity to find out how the ANC uses Botswana of planning violence against South Africa. The South African Government has agreed to make details of (?statments by) the detainee available to the Botswana Government.

Meanwhile, the government has emphasized its duty to protect the people of South Africa from violence, as is planned and executed from outside its borders.

President Rejects Attempts To Sabotage Reform

MB261807 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1715 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Bronkhorstrpruit Nov 26 SAPA — Nobody had the moral right to sabotage the positive attempts by government on so many fronts to solve South Africa's problems, the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, said today.

Speaking at a luncheon after the Bronkhorstspruit Town Council conferred honorary freedom of the town on him at a special meeting, he said, "many people are inclined to speak of our problems and too many people attempt to exploit our problems to further their own interests.

"I am not against pepole who make an attempt to understand our problems, but nobody has the moral right to sabotage our positive attempts to solve our problems, as the government is doing on as many fronts."

Bronkhorstspruit is the 27th town or city in South Africa to confer honorary freedom upon Mr Botha.

U.S., Canadian Envoys Present Credentials to Botha

MB271405 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0758 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Pretoria Nov 27 SAPA — The first black United States ambassador to South Africa, Mr Edward Perkins, presented his credentials to the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, this morning during a 15 minute interview at the Union Buildings.

Mr Ronald MacLean, the new Canadian ambassador, presented his credintial to the state president shortly before Mr Perkins.

Both ambassadors, who were formally dressed in morning suits and top hats, were given the general salute as they stood on the steps of Mr Botha's office after their meetings by a state president's guard of honour and the band of the black Defence Force's 21 Battalion.

Mr Perkins arrived in South Africa last week to start his term of office and Mr MacLean a few weeks ago.

Crash Investigator Says No Results Till Next Year

MB070748 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0700 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] The results of the Machel death crash inquiry are not expected to be announced before the end of the year. Experts investigating the air cash that killed the Mozambican president are currently in Moscow to continue their examination of the plane's flight recorders.

The South African director of civil aviation, Rennie van Zyl, has told reporters at Moscow airport the digital flight recorder, one of the plane's four recording devices, will be examined today. He says the work on the cockpit voice recorder, which was examined in Switzerland, was very successful, and what he called some good data has been retrieved from it.

Mr van Zyl says the team of South African, Mozambican, and Soviet investigators does not expect to announce the results of its investigation until early next year.

Businessmen's Detention in Zimbabwe Investigated

MB270922 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0822 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Pretoria, Nov 27, SAPA — South Africa's trade representative in Harare is "looking into" reports in Johannesburg newspapers today that a number of businessmen from the republic — including foreign nationals and South Africans — have been held in Zimbabwe for questioning as suspected spies for the SA defence force.

Approached for comment on the reports today, a foreign affairs spokesman said in Pretoria his department had "taken note of newspaper reports." "The South African trade representative in Harare is currently looking into the matter." He had no further comment "for the time being."

According to the press reports, which quote sources in Harare, a group of between seven and 11 businessmen from South Africa, most of whom were staying at the Holiday Inn in Harare, were taken in for questioning on Monday.

It was understood some of them had been released but confined to their hotel rooms, and that their passports were being held. Others were still being questioned yesterday.

Mr Bill Grobler, a Brakpan businessman who holds a Zimbabwean passport, a Mr Boet van der Westhuizen, and Mr Robin

Taylor, whose addresses are not known, are among those reported to have been held for questioning.

Businessmen Suspected of Spying

MB271557 Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English
27 Nov 86 pp 1, 2

[By Tony Stirling]

[Text] A number of businessmen from South Africa — including foreign nationals and South Africans — have been held in Zimbabwe for questioning as suspected spies for the SA Defence Force.

This was confirmed to *The Citizen* last night by sources in Harare.

According to *The Citizen's* information, a group of between seven and 11 businessmen from South Africa, most of whom were staying at the Holiday Inn, Harare, were taken for questioning on Monday.

The move follows as Press conference last week by the Chief of the Army, Lieutenant General A.J. "Kat" Liebernberg about the use of ANC routes through Botswana and Zimbabwe in which South African retaliation was again hinted at.

It is understood that some of the men have been released, but are confined to their rooms at the Holiday Inn and have had their passports removed. Others were still being questioned yesterday.

Mr Bill Grobler, a Brakpan businessmam who hold a Zimbabwean passports, a Mr Boet van der Westheizen and a Mr Robin Taylor, whose addresses are not known, are among those reported to have been held for questioning.

Mrs Grobler said last night that she had heard that her husband had been held on Monday, but that she was still trying to ascertain the exact position as she had been unable to make contact with him since then.

A Harare source who did not wish to be named, said he had been informed that 11 businessmen from South Africa had been held for questioning over suspected SADF spying activities. Another source put the figure of those who were held at seven.

South African officials in Harare were last night trying to establish the facts.

Court Finds 3 Delmas Treason Defendants Not Guilty

MB270930 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0928 GMT
27 Nov 86

[Text] Delmas Nov 27, SAPA — Three of 22 men standing trial on charges of treason in the circuit court here were found not guilty and discharged by Mr Justice V. van Dijkhorst today.

The hearing against the 22, including prominent United Democratic Front leaders, an Anglican priest and a South African Council of Churches worker, has been running for more than a year.

The judge adjourned the case to next January 9.

All the accused had pleaded not guilty to charges of conspiring to make black townships ungovernable and to overthrow the government through violence.

Further on Ruling

MB271035 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1030 GMT
27 Nov 86

[Text] Delmas, Nov 27, SAPA — Three of the Delmas treason trialists today hailed the end of a long trial and nearly two years of incarceration when Mr Justice K. van Dijhorst acquitted and discharged them.

But for many others it was a day of tears and disappointment — dozens of people flocked to Delmas today hoping that it would be their loved ones who would walk out free men when the judge gave his judgment in the defence application for the discharge of all 22 accused.

Mr Mohapi Lazarus More, Mr Simon Maxala Vilakazi, and Mr Mkhambi Malindi were acquitted. Mr Justice van Dijkhorst said the three had no case to meet in his view.

The accused who remain to face charges of high treason include United Democratic Front leaders Mr Popo Molefe, Mr Patrick "Terror" Lekota and Mr Moss Chikane, as well as an Anglican priest and members of AZAPO and the Vaal Civic Association (VCA).

Mr Justice van Dijkhorst said a reasonable man might find that on the facts placed before the court, the UDF had been involved in a consipiracy aimed at overthrowing the government, as alleged by the state.

That would also involve all affiliates represented on UDF management structures. The judge held, therefore, that the accused who were involved in the UDF or any of its affiliates such as the VCA, did have a case to answer on the charge of treason.

Concerning a murder charge, which relates to the death of community councillors in the Vaal Triangle, the judge said that any accused who had propagated violence or was in a leadership position at a meeting where violence was propagated and did nothing to repudiate it, could be expected to give the court an explanation. On this criterion some of the accused could be implicated in that they should have foreseen that inciting people to actions against councillors could perhaps have led to their deaths.

As the three acquitted men left the court building, Mr Malindi said he would continue to fight for a free South Africa. He said he did not know exactly what they would do now, but it would take some time for them to assess what was going on inside the townships. He said there was still a lot of hard work to be done to help those treason trialists who had been left behind, adding:

"We thought that all of us would be discharged." He said he believed that the people needed a lot of guidance and direction which ought to be given to them by their leaders (the UDF leaders still on trial).

Mr More was married in court to his wife, Maguata, during the treason trial. She was in court today and clung to his hand tearfully after he had been discharged. She whispered something and he laughed and she said later she had told him they could go on their honeymoon now.

The hearing against the remaining 19 men was postponed to January.

6 Defendants Granted Bail

MB271416 Johannesburg SAPA English 1409 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Johannesburg Nov 27 SAPA — Three Delmas treason trailists were acquitted and six others were granted bail of R15,000 each in the Rand Circuit Court today. Family, friends and supporters gathered in te conservative enclase of Delmas in the vain hope that an application for the discharge of all 22 men would be succesful.

Mr Simon Vilakazi, 30, Mr Mohapi More, 26, and Mr Mkhambi Malindi, 21, were acquitted and Mr Patrick Bakleka, Mr Morake Mokoena, Mr Tsietsi Mphuti, Mr Tebello Rmakgula, Mr Serame Hlonyane and Mr Thabiso Tatsomo were granted bail.

Three key members of the United Democratic Front — Mr Popo Molefe, Mr Patrick "Terror" Lekota and Mr Moss Chikane — and 16 others, mostly members of the Azanian People's Organisation and the Vaal Civic Association, are facing a main charge of treason, three alternative counts of terrorism, two counts of subversion and five counts of murder. The trial follows violence that broke out in the Vaal Triangle on Sept 3, 1984.

The defence counsel argued that the court was obliged to discharge all 22.

Mr Justice Dijkhorst found that Mr Vilakazi, Mr More and Mr Malindi, had no case to meet. They were accused, amongst other allegations, of singing freedom songs, listening to Radio Freedom and being cheerleaders at the lauch of the Vaal Civic Association. The judge said the court had discretion under the Criminal Procedures Act to discharge the men but apart from the three acquitted, "I refuse to exercise my discretion in their favour."

The state case involved proof that the UDF and its affiliates were involved in a conspiracy to overthrow the government, he said. "There is evidence that the UDF and AZAPO were working towards a common goal which might be part of a conspiracy." This involved the management structures of all affiliates and the accused involved had a case to answer, the judge said. Explanations were also required of people not part of management structures, but who propagated violence and those who participated in a protest march in a leadership capacity.

The murder charge "stands on it own foot" and, "in my view the accused who attended a meeting that propagated the murder of councillors and black local authorities and who did not object... an explanation is required. They should have seen that threats against councillors may lead to action against them by a mob which could lead to their death," the judge said. "I refuse to exercise my discretion in their favour as it is likely that they may be implicated in some of the councillors' murders."

Under a heavy police presence the three freed men left with their families.

Among those attending today's proceedings were activist Mrs Helen Joseph, who is also a UDF patron, and Mr Archie Gumede, a UDF president. The trial re-opens on Jan 21.

Activist Helen Joseph Refused Visa for U.S. Visit

MB261410 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Antiapartheid activist Helen Joseph has been refused a visa to travel to the United States. The Department of Home Affairs in Pretoria has confirmed that Mrs Joseph's application for a visa has been turned down. However, no reasons have been given for the refusal. The 81-year-old human rights activist was due to travel to Houston, Texas, to received the (Roscoe Chapel) award granted every 5 years to people who have committed themselves to truth and freedom. The award was also to have been granted to Albertina Sisulu of the UDF. Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town Desmond Tutu is scheduled to be the keynote speaker at the ceremony on 10 December.

GENCOR Bars Returning Strikers From Mines

MB261623 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1501 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Excerpts] Johannesburg Nov 26 SAPA — About 2000 workers returning to work today after a two-day strike at GENCOR's [General Mining Union Corporation] Matla colliery were barred from the premises for the company to conduct disciplinary hearings for the strikers, the chief executive officer for GENCOR's coal division, Mr Gordon Thompson, said. [passage omitted]

"The hearings follow after the employees failed to follow the agreed-upon procedures between Matla's management and the workers representatives to solve grievances," Mr Thompson said.

"The employees returned to the mine this morning and were informed about the disiplinary hearing and returned to the hostels. At this stage they have not reported for the hearings.

"The mine yesterday sent a telex to NUM [National Union of Mineworkers] stating that the workers actions are not in accordance with agreed procedures and undertakings between the mine and the union," he said. The NUM telexed the company this morning asking why the workers had been locked out and requested a meeting with mine management to which the mine agreed. "We will discuss the dispute and find out why the workers didn't come to work," Mr Tompson said. [passage omitted]

Miners Face Hearings

MB271521 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1507 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Johannesburg Nov 27 SAPA — About 300 of 2000 employees locked out of GENCOR's [General Union Mining Corporation] Matla colliery reported to management for "individual discimplinary hearings" today, GENCOR said. The move follows a lockout last Tuesday when the 2000 workers went on what GENCOR says was an illegal strike.

A statement by Mr Graham Thompson, chief executive officer of GENCOR's coal division, said the 2000 initially indicated they wanted a mass hearing. No worker who had been "absent without permission" on Tuesday had been allowed to return to work yet, Mr Thompson's statement said. "The hearings are still in progress. A meeting is currently taking place between mine management and officials of the head and regional offices of the National Union of Mineworkers [NUM]," the statement said, adding that the situation at the mine was calm.

The strike at Matla was one of a series which hit two other GENCOR mines on Tuesday. Workers were protesting against the "unsatisfactory" relationship between the NUM and management of GENCOR's Kinross gold mine, a NUM spokesman has said. Workers at the other two mines — Bracken and Winkelhaak — returned to work yesterday, but those at Matla were prevented from doing so.

Incidents which accompanied the deterioration in relations between the NUM and Kinross management include the dismissal of NUM regional chairman Mr Eric Vala, several underground work stoppages, and the death of a man in a clash between NUM members and another group last Sunday.

KwaNdebele Prince Released From Detention

MB261758 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1708 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Pretoria Nov 26 SAPA — Prince James Mahlangu, a member of KwaNdebele's legislative assembly, who had been detained under the emergency regulations, has been released. Sources in Siyabuswa said today Prince James was freed last night — just in time to participate in the legislative assembly's election for a new chief minister tomorrow.

KwaNdeble's commissioner of police, Brig Hertzog Lerm, could not be reached for comment today, and it is unclear whether some nine others detained with Prince James, including his brother, Prince Andries, had also been freed.

A third member of the royal family, Prince Cornelius Mahlangu, who is the minister of health; and the acting chief minister, Mr Klaas Motshweni, the minister of works and water affairs, have been identified by observers as likely nominees for the post of chief minister.

Meanwhile, pre-election lobbying within the 72-member assembly coincided with courtesy visit to the territory today by South Africa's outgoing minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange. He had lunch with cabinet ministers.

Assembly Elects New Leader

MB271116 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1106 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Siyabuswa Nov 27 SAPA — An ordinary member of the KwaNdebele legislative assembly, Mr George Mahlangu, was today elected the new chief minister of the homeland. A tribal chief's son, Mr Mahlangu received 41 votes to beat the 25 received by the only other nominee, Prince James Mahlangu.

Prince Mahlangu, also a member of the assembly and chairman of the Ndzundza-Mabhoko tribal authority, was released from detention on Tuesday. He is one of the leaders of the anti-independence movement in the homeland.

Mr Mahlangu succeeds Chief Minister Simon Skosana, who died recently after a long illness.

The acting chief minister of Kwandebele, Mr Klaass Mtsweni, was not nominated for the post.

Mahlangu Evasive on Independence

MB271333 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1326 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Siyabushwa Nov 27 SAPA — KwaNdebele businessman Mr George Mahlangu was elected the new chief minister by the territory's Legislative Assembly in Siyabushwa today. He received 41 votes against Prince James Mahlangu's 25.

The 35-year-old new chief minister, who held no ministerial portfolio before being elected, told a press conference immediately after the election that he had been brought up by KwaNdebele's cabinet ministers. Mr Mahlangu was evasive on whether he supported or rejected independence for the territory. He indicated however that "a meeting" would be held with the public to test their attitude towards independence.

Political observers expressed fears however that the youthful Mr Mahlangu may be dominated by his elders in the cabinet, and that new initiatives to gain independence may be railroaded through the assembly in due course. They also pointed to the convincing defeat Prince James Mahlangu, who publicly opposed independence, had suffered — an apparent about face from the assembly's rejection of independence in August.

Asked at the press conference whether he thought that the state of emergency conditions in KwaNdebele should be lifted, he said: "I shall have to look through them before I can decide." Asked how peace should be restored, he said: "People should realise that what has been done the wrong way should be done the right way."

Mr Mahlangu was born at Verena and went to school in the Moloto area. He matriculated in 1974, and obtained a legal diploma from the university of Zululand in 1980. Mr Mahlangu promised development and progress for KwaNdebele. He grew up in the same kraal [homestead] as Prince James, and assured the news conference that they were still the best of friends. The new chief owns a number of shops and a bar within KwaNdebele.

The commoner, with a neatly-trimed beard and moustache, was evidently still not used to news conferences, and blinked from photographers flashguns. He was whisked to and from the news conference by the commissioner of police, Brig Hertzog Lerm.

Prince James, who was the only other nominee, left for his kraal immediately after the election. He, his brother Prince Andries, and some eight others were released from detention in terms of the security regulations on Tuesday night, less than 48 hours before the election. According to a personal spokesman, Prince James had not been given any reasons for his detention.

Grenade Injures Three Policemen at KTC

MB270729 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0728 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Cape Town, Nov 27, SAPA — Three policemen were injured in a grenade blast at the KTC squatter camp in Guguletu today, the police confirmed.

While undertaking a crime prevention operation a grenade was thrown at the men and exploded, a spokesman said. The policemen were rushed to hospital and the Bureau for Information is expected to issue a statement on the incident later today.

Soweto Squatters Shacks Demolished by Police

MB261221 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1100 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] A number of squatters at Soweto's Mofolo Park near Johannesburg are reportedly being uprooted from their shacks by council police. Reports from the township say shacks set up on a golf course are being destroyed by council police. The shacks started going up last year while Ephraim Shablala was still mayor of Soweto. Squatters were apparently paying Mr Shabalala for permission to erect shacks on the course. A foreign television crew has been kicked out of the area and is not clear what is going to happen to the displaced residents.

Police Use Teargas

MB261428 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1422 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Johannesburg Nov 26 SAPA — Police teargassed a mob which had pelted them with stones and petrol-bombs in Soweto today. A Bureau for Information spokesman, Mr Deon van Loggerenberg, said there had been no arrests or injuries.

The trouble started when settled house-dwellers in Mofolo started tearing down the shacks of squatters in the area, he said. Squatters set upon those demolishing the shacks. When police arrived on the scene, they were stoned and petrol-bombed, and had to use teargas to disperse the mob. It is not known how badly the shacks had been damaged.

Relative peace had been restored to the area by this afternoon.

Reports Vary Over Police Presence

MB271352 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1226 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Johannesburg Nov 27 SAPA — Police vehicles and a car belonging to the American news agency CBS were pelted with stones and petrol bombs by angry youths following the demolition of shacks and teargassing of residents in Mofolo yesterday. *The Star* was on the scene when bulldozers ploughed through more than 100 shacks. Squatters objected to CBS filming the demolished shacks and ordered its crew out of the area. A spokesman for CBS said their car was damaged by a petrol bomb but no one was injured.

Reports of what took place during the incident differed widely. Reporters said they found there was no fight between residents and squatters. Neither was this reported by residents or squatters. Instead, residents helped squatters assemble building material from the structures.

They said the police and soldiers did not arrive after the demolition. The shacks were demolished in their presence. The teargas was thrown at squatters who were in groups crying over their demolished shelters and those putting otgether what remained of them.

Afterwards, rain poured down on the roofless squatters while they struggled to get neighbours to accommodate them. Squatters complained they had lost several hundred rands in the demolition. They said the council did not build houses, and then when the mayor, Mr Ephraim Tshabalala, granted them a place to erect shacks, they were demolished.

A spokesman for the Bureau for Information, Mr Johan Van Der Walt, said police arrived at the squatter camp where there was "an internal fight of settlers (house dwellers) against squatters." "In Mofolo North in Soweto a mob was teargassed as petrol bombs and stones were thrown. The trouble started when settled house dwellers in Mofolo started tearing down shacks of the squatters. They said it was an eyesore and the squatters set upon those demolishing shacks. Then the police arrived on the scene and were stoned and petrol-bombed. They had to use teargas to disperse the mob," said Mr Van Der Walt. *The Star* asked Mr Van Der Walt what the residents used to demolish the shacks, to which he replied he did not know. Mr Van Der Walt said he was providing official information.

Soweto Mayor Resigns

MB280444 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2159 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Nov 27, SAPA — The mayor of Soweto, Mr Ephraim Tshabalala, handed in his letter of resignation to the Soweto City Council today in his dual capacity as councillor of Mofolo Village and mayor. The letter was handed to the town clerks, Mr Nico Malan, at the Council's monthly meeting held at the chambers in Jabulani, Soweto.

In his letter, Mr Tshabalala said the primary reason for his resignation was the outcry from Soweto residents saying that they no longer have confidence in the council. He said he felt that he could no longer perform his duties in the present administration of Soweto. He went on to say that his resignation will take effect from November 30 and that was stepping down in the hope that an interim committee could be established in order to normalise the situation in Soweto.

SOWETAN Editor on Violence

MB262003 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 26 Nov 86

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Violence has erupted again in Soweto, outside the South African city of Johannesburg. It blew up in the shantytown of Mshenguville in the center of the sprawling township. The authorities wanted Mshenguville demolished. The residents resisted. Julian Borja asked Thamie Mazwai, news editor of the *Sowetan* newspaper, what had happened:

[Begin recording] [Mazwai] About 100 shacks were bulldozed this morning. Security forces, which consisted of municipal police, South African Police, and members of the SADF, moved in and they demolished these shacks. Now, during the demolishing the squatters themselves and the gangs of youths were involved in confrontation with the security forces, and as a result tearsmoke was fired while firebombs were thrown at the security forces.

[Borja] Are there reports of any casualties?

[Mazwai] Right now we have not had any reports of casualties. The problem is that whenever any of the people get injured they seldom go to the hospital, because when they go to the hospital they get detained. So, we normally get reports of casualties about a day later.

[Borja] Have things pretty much quietened down now?

[Mazwai] Well, there has been some heavy rain in the area. So, that has sort of dampened the conflict.

[Borja] So, how much of Mshenguville has been destroyed?

[Mazwai] Well 100 shacks have been demolished, and this would be six people to a shack. It would mean that about 750 people are homeless right now. [numbers as heard]

[Borja] Why are the authorities destroying Mshenguville? What do they intend will take its place?

[Mazwai] These people have just been demolished, and they have been given no other place to go to. I believe that it is most insensitive of the authorities to demolish shacks and not give people alternate accomodation, because some of these people have been on the waiting list for houses for the past 10 years.

[Borja] What kind of place is Mshenguville? What kind of people are staying there?

[Mazwai] It is a shantytown and is right in the middle of Soweto. It sprouted up early this year when the mayor allowed people to build shacks on land that belongs to him. Later on people came in droves, and they spread onto the adjoining golf course, which is city council ground. Right now there are about 2,000 shacks in the area. It is Johannesburg's version of Crossroads, and the town council, the Soweto Town Council put a halt to these shacks. But last weekend more people came, and the shacks that have been demolished are the people who came in from last week. [end recording]

Information Bureau Issues Unrest Report

Nov 27 Unrest Report

MB270908 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0907 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Pretoria, Nov 27, SAPA — Herewith the Bureau for Information's unrest report for the period 6 am yesterday to 6 am today.

"In Mofolo (Soweto) illegal squatter dwellings were yesterday demolished on instruction of the Soweto housing council. Black youths threw stones at the council members and also attacked the security forces with stones and petrol bombs.

The security forces dispersed the youths with tearsmoke. No injuries or arrests were reported.

"Other unrest related incidents reported during the above mentioned 24 hours once again comprised of isolated stone throwing and petrol bomb attacks causing little damage. No arrests were made and in one incident a black woman was slightly injured.

"In Guguletu two members of the SAP, who were on routine Patrol duty, were fired upon by unknown persons and when they dived for cover, a hand grenade was thrown at them. Both Capt P. Loock of the Guguletu detective squad, and Sgt H. Steenkamp of the Wingfield dog unit, were taken to hospital with multiple shrapnel wounds. Their conditions are stable. No arrests were made. Police investigations continue."

Nov 28 Unrest Report

MB281002 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0958 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] [No dateline as recieved] — The following is the Bureau for Information's unrest report for 0600 (27 Nov) to 0600 (28 Nov).

"In Dlamini 2 (Soweto), yesterday, a group of youths approached a house in search of another youth. After the mother of the youth informed them that her son was not at home, the group attacked the women and her home with stones, petrolbombs and a firearm.

"The house was totally demolished by fire and three women and one man received bullet wounds. No arrests were made.

"In a similar incident in another part of Dlamini 2 considerable damage was caused to another house. No one was injured in this incident and no arrests were made.

"At approximately 13H00 yesterday three youths, Jonathan Rambuda, 19, Solly Melewa, 12 and Roger Mariya, 8, who were fishing from the Tweeling bridge near the Fanie Botha Dam (Tzaneen), discovered an object, possibly a handgrenade, in the mud.

"One of them threw the object at the foot of the bridge where it exploded. Jonathan received multiple injuries and was admitted to the Letaba hospital. The other two received only slight injuries. Police investigations continue.

"Other reported unrest-related incidents comprised once again of isolated stone throwing and petrol bomb attacks on private and security force vehicles as well as private homes. No injuries were reported and only one black youth was arrested in connection with a stone throwing incident.

"A black man was arrested in connection with yesterday's handgrenade incident in KTC, Guguletu. The SAP confiscated a Russian-made firearm, magazines and ammunition."

The Bureau for Information has added the following to its daily unrest report:

"With reference to an incident on 15 November 1986 at Curry's Fountains, Durban, during which a member of the Metal and Allied Workers Union (MAWU) Mr M.S.J. Mchunu, was fatally wounded, a proper autopsy, as is legally required, was held.

"Evidence for a possible judicial enquiry is at present being gathered and will be submitted to the attorney general in accordance with standing procedures.

"All parties concerned who are in possession of relevant evidence, may contact Capt Van Rooyen of the Berea (Durban) detective branch of the SAP."

Press Comments on Current Problems, Issues

26 Nov Press Review

MB260714 [Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN on Barclays Bank Withdrawal

Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 25 November says in its page 6 editorial that it "won't cheer from the rooftops" because Barclays Bank is withdrawing from South Africa since it prefers "companies that have been in South Africa for decades to continue their links." However, "there is no moral justification for Barclays pulling out" since "deprived of access to new loans, South Africans will find it increasingly difficult to stimulate economic growth to provide employment for its evergrowing Black population. Disinvestment on a scale being perpetrated by Barclays is just as bad, as it will encourage other withdrawals. On balance, however, we believe that South Africa's major financial institutions should be in South African hands and the fact that Barclays National will be purely South African will be a good thing in the long run."

THE STAR on Barclays Bank Withdrawal

"Barclays UK's withdrawal from South Africa may be the biggest single disinvestment blow delivered to date. But it is not one that is going to materially damage the financial sector of the economy," says a page 12 editorial in Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 25 November. "Of more concern than the perceived earthquake effect is the growing realisation that the resources of South Africa's financial institutions are finite." *The Star* says the day must eventually dawn "when the wherewithal to buy out the disinvestors is simply not forthcoming." "Hopefully, Pretoria will engender the foreign confidence needed to keep overseas companies here by getting on with the economic and political reforms so desperately needed to convince the multinationals that South Africa's future will be characterised by a buoyant economy and racial and social harmony."

BUSINESS DAY on Barclays Bank Withdrawal

A page 8 editorial in Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 25 November says the Barclays Bank decision to withdraw from South Africa and "Pretoria's right turn on reform of the Group Areas Act" are "part of the greater malaise of this nation. And now, with a white election pending, the true cause of that malaise is increasingly being camouflaged behind a flurry of propaganda. The National Party is not and never has been a reformist party. Rather, it is a dinosaur. It has been shown to be incapable of making the changes that will lead this nation from the brink." *Business Day* says even though the "sanctioneers are morally wrong, in that by their departure they are deserting the people whose interests they claim to have at heart," South Africans "should not be deflected from the truth." South Africans should seek "the real reasons why our currency has collapsed, why our economy has slumped, why the multinationals are deserting us, and why our country is wracked by domestic torment. Every road leads to the divisive and recalcitrant policies of Pretoria."

Foreign Press Blamed for Poor RSA Image

"One must surely marvel at the Nationalist government's capacity for self-delusion and self-deception," says Joel Mervis on the same page. "Although the Nationlists have allegedly changed, their delusions and the self-deception still lingers on." Mervis refers to Deputy Minister of Information Stoffel van der Merwe's claim that "the inability of the foreign press to read and understand Afrikaans was largely responsible for SA's poor image abroad." "From all sides government is exhorted to introduce meaningful, realistic reform. These exhortations are largely ignored. The reforms lack thrust, and are halfbaked and unconvincing. But as one will readily appreciate, government does not regard itself as being to blame for the crises at home and the inflamed hostility abroad. If government is not to blame, then who is? The New Deputy Minister of Information has the answer. The blame rests squarely on the Foreign Press who cannot read Afrikaans. Only when they learn to do so, one gathers, will our image improve."

CAPE TIMES Supports PFP as Alternative Government

"The middle of the roaders remain clearly in control of the party's direction, but it is good to know that the PFP, through its committed youth formations and monitoring groups, is well informed about the turmoil in the townships and is in touch with black opinion," says a page 12 editorial in Johannesburg *Cape Times* in English on 24 November. "As the group areas fiasco again shows, the Botha government is manifestly unwilling to undertake the reform measures which will be needed to build a climate for negotiation. As President Botha drifts, the PFP should grasp this opportunity to build support to become the core of a broad-based alternative government, bringing together South Africans in all sections who are opposed to nationalist extremism."

CAPE TIMES: PFP Aims at Alternative Government

On page 12 of *Cape Times* political correspondent Anthony Johnson says: "The Progressive Federal Party's federal congress at the weekend proved to be a poignant illustration of the dilemmas facing any conventional parliamentary political party aggressively seeking both white electoral support and credibility among extra-parliamentary groups in a rapidly polarising South Africa." "The official PFP strategy, as spelt out by several speakers, is first to gain control of the white House of Assembly, and then to call a national convention to which all political groupings will be invited to thrash out a new constitution. The immediate goal is to be by 1990 'a significant and effective part of an alternative, non-racial, democratic government in a post-apartheid South Africa.' " Johnson points out that "about 40 percent of white voters and 59 percent of blacks support the basic principles of the PFP. But less than 20 percent currently vote for the PFP."

SOWETAN on Venda Regime

"The detention and harassment of well-known Northern Transvaal cleric, Dean Tshenuwani Simon Farisani, is a chilling reminder that the Venda government has not stopped its grotesque jackboot tactics of repression," says the page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *Sowetan* in Eng'ish on 25 November. The paper says the government of Venda is "applying the ruthless methods of repression learned from South Africa," and it is "just an arm of the repressive system in South Africa." "Fortunately, such intolerable regimes do not last forever."

'Focus' on Rent Boycott

Themba Molefe says in the "Focus" column on the same page that "as the rent boycott spreads to more townships around the country, the authorities resort to stringent methods to break it." Meanwhile, lawyers are questioning the legality of action taken by local authorities against boycotting residents and a Johannesburg attorney says "the courts will also rule on whether it is legal that residents should pay rent." "The Lekoa Town Council, which earlier during the boycott got employers to deduct rent money by stop order from workers' pay, was stopped by court action."

DIE TRANSVALER: PFP Seeks White, Black Support

A page 14 editorial in Pretoria *Die Transvaler* in Afrikaans on 24 November says that at its federal congress at the weekend the PFP came to the conclusion "that even an opposition party cannot always be everything to everyone. On the one hand there can be no promise of protection of minority rights — in the case of whites — and on the other hand total democracy to gain black support." *Die Transvaler* believes that the fact that the PFP ordered a constitutional commission to investigate this discordance is "only a trick to avoid the matter — possibly until the following elections."

VADERLAND: RSA, Neighbor Tension Increases

"Tension between South Africa and some of its neighboring states is increasing," says a page 18 editorial in Johannesburg *Die Vaderland* in Afrikaans on 25 November. "It has obviously reached a dangerous level. Unless it is not defused, further unpleasant episodes between neighboring state relations await." *Die Vaderland* believes that "matches are recklessly being struck in dry grass. Botswana even claims that South Africa wants to invade it. Notwithstanding the fact that South Africa is provoked by terrorism coming from Botswana committed in South Africa." The paper points out that South Africa has invited Botswana to question an arrested terrorist in this connection. "Botswana's reaction will indicate whether, like South Africa, it wants to defuse the situation and create peace in the region; or whether like some other countries, it is only interested in fanning the flames."

BEELD on Barclays Bank Withdrawal

A page 10 editorial in Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 25 November comments on the withdrawal of Barclays Bank UK's decision to dissociate itself from its South African interests saying "the danger exists that Barclays UK — without intending it — like the piper from Hamlin will lure smaller British investors to follow it." However, "positive points are that the capital structure of the bank will be strengthened and about R30 million which is yearly sent out of the country in the form of dividends, will in the future remain in South Africa. Previous setbacks have been converted into long-term benefits. This politically inspired transaction will be no exception. The mother bank's loss is South Africa's gain."

27 November Press Review

MB270807 [Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN on Group Areas, Local Option

Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 26 November comments in its page 6 editorial on the "constitutional crisis resulting from the six-month delay over the President's Council report on Group Areas." The paper says the Group Areas Act is "falling into disuse" in the grey area cities "while remaining in the Statute Book. This makes a mockery of the law — and when a law is ignored, the whole legal system is undermined. It would be better, therefore, if the position were regularised by the creation of legally acceptable mixed areas or by giving local authorities the option to allow mixing if they so wish." "At some future date, the Group Areas Act will be repealed, but we understand the government's refusal to do this in one bold move. It does, after all, have to maintain its constituency and it does have to ensure that it remains in power."

THE STAR: Government Sanctions Forced Removals

On page 10 of Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 26 November Alan Morris, field worker with the Transvaal Rural Action

Committee of the Black Sash, comments on the forced removal of Oukasie township residents. He points out that Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning Chris Heunis has stated in the government Gazette that "the land is no longer defined and set apart as a town." This is an "officially sanctioned and legislated forced removal." Morris believes that "the real reason for the disestablishment is that the township is too close to the white group area. The disestablishment is a desperate attempt by the Government to appease the ultra-right and retain this very marginal seat." If the removal of Oukasie goes ahead it will be "another tragic chapter in the history of apartheid," and "will reinforce the contention that the Government's talk of reform is a complete sham."

BUSINESS DAY Urges NP To Reassure Conservatives

"The auguries for next year's white election are not good for South Africa," says a page 10 editorial in Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 26 November. "The National Party always turns right at election time, and this poll is going to be no different, whether it is a full election or only a string of by-elections. But, more than in previous polls, it is SA's future wellbeing which is at stake, not just that of the NP. President Botha makes much of the motto 'SA first', by which he means that what is good for the NP is good for SA." *Business Day* believes that "a brave patriot would take on the right wing with a bold reformist charter and a string of genuinely reformist laws in the pre-election session. Instead of unconvincing assurances to the right, the NP should spell out to doubting conservatives why far-reaching reforms are necessary. If that means a loss of seats, so be it. There will be compensating gains, both for the NP in votes elsewhere, and for SA's domestic and international prospects. If Botha will not put SA first, the NP — or the country — should turn to someone else who will."

CAPE TIMES on Barclays Bank (UK) Withdrawal

A page 14 editorial in Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 25 November says: "Yesterday's decision by Barclays Bank PLC [public limited company] (UK) to quit South Africa is the saddest chapter so far in the worsening tale of woe on the disinvestment front. The exit is not only the biggest to date at some R500m, but it illustrates more powerfully than ever that traditional financial considerations are becoming increasingly irrelevant when it comes to international business decisions relating to this country." *Cape Times* says "Barclays' pullout represents a dramatic acceleration to panic level of an exodus that knows neither rhyme nor reason on economic grounds. Even the Anglo American-led consortium which has probably gained a considerable bargain must regard its success as pyrrhic indeed. That is how it goes with sanctions and disinvestment. Nobody really wins, and the country — its workers and the economy, that is — certainly loses."

SOWETAN: Education System for All Races

"While ordinary people are convinced that the pressure on South Africa will only be reversed if courageous changes are made, the Government is still too timid, frightened and xenophobic to launch vigorous structural changes," says the page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 26 November. The paper welcomes the proposal by the white teachers' organization, the South African Teachers' Association, that state schools be opened to children of all race groups. "What would be ideal is a Government commitment to institute one education system for all children. In that way most problems would be solved."

BEELD: Rector To Mediate for Moderates

A page 10 editorial in Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 26 November says that rector of the Rand Afrikaans University, Professor Pieter de Lange's, "decision to leave the academic life and become a bridge builder for moderates is imaginative. He exchanges security for insecurity — but South Africa needs this sort of pluck. If whites want to assure themselves a secure future together with other population groups, they will have to move out and try out new approaches." *Beeld* wishes De Lange success because it also believes in "negotiation, contact and moderation as direction indicators." *Beeld* says that if Lange remains "neutral and creative he can play a dynamic role in a troubled country which searches for hope."

NHK To Abolish Color Clause

A second editorial on the same page says that as long as the ultraconservative branch of the Dutch Reformed Church, the Nederduitsch Hervormede Kerk (NHK), "clings to its Article III which determines that only whites can be members of the church, it helps little to call on church boards to arrange matters in such a way that no one will be injured." *Beeld* believes that people "will be offended" if the church does not "strip membership and church attendance of its color substructure." The paper says that to do away with the color clause should be easier for this church than it is for the Dutch Reformed Church (NGK) because "its decision was not based on biblical or theological grounds but purely on practical and political considerations."

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Press Conference Covers Economy, RSA Threats

MB271920 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Excerpts] The president, Comrade Kaunda, today expressed concern at the continued decline in the value of the kwacha and announced that contacts were being made with creditor countries and international organizations to find ways of strengthening the currency. Addressing a press conference at State House tHis morning the president explained that the value of the kwacha was declining continuously because only funds earned by Zambian exports was being made available for auctioning. Referring to the effects of the depreciation of the kwacha in the cost of living, Comrade Kaunda pointed out that the auction system was the best under the country's economic [words indistinct] and urged Zambians to understand why they were undergoing difficulties of economic adjustment. [passage omitted]

Turning to security he urged Zambians to take the threats from South African Defence Minister Magnus Malan very seriously and to remain vigilant in the defense of the country. Comrade Kaunda said that the situation in the region is very grave, and when a country like South Africa issues threats they must be taken seriously.

The president also took a spike at easygoing Zambians who are trying to mislead the masses into thinking that Zambia has taken a wrong stand on the southern African situation. Comrade

Kaunda said any person who says Zambia is a hoax because of her stand on South Africa is ignorant because the country's policies have always been to support peace. Comrade Kaunda reiterated that if Pik Botha comes to Zambia with the objective of discussing the dismantling of apartheid, the lifting of the state of emergency, the lifting of the ban on the African National Congress and other political parties in that country, releasing Nelson Mandela and others, as well as holding dialogue with the oppressed people, then he will be welcomed.

In the light (?of the series) of events that have taken place in the struggle for independence of Angola, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe, Comrade Kaunda appealed to the Western governments to recognize the forgiving nature of Africans, who only want peace but cannot have it with apartheid in South Africa.

Kaunda: RSA Considering Raid

MB280553 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0500 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Zambia and Zimbabwe have agreed in principle to cut air links with South Africa, but the two Frontline States have still to announce when they will take the step. Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda says the Frontline States' proposed sanctions against South Africa will only be effective if they are backed by South Africa's major trading partners.

President Kaunda also says his government has learned from white South Africans being held captive in Zambia that Pretoria is contemplating another raid on his country. President Kaunda has given no further details of the alleged plan.

EEC Delegate Promises 'Concrete' Economic Aid

MB271643 Dakar PANA in English 1630 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Lusaka, 27 Nov (ZANA/PANA) — Zambia's President Kenneth Kaunda yesterday appealed for more assistance form the European Economic Community, other donor countries and organisations to enable Zambia carry through its structural adjustments programmes designed to prop up the economy. Kaunda said Zambia had already taken very tough measures which deserve the sympathy of the EEC and other donor agencies. He was speaking at State House last night when the new EEC delegate to Zambia Mr Jean-Machel Filori called on him.

He told Mr Filori in the presence of Zambia's Prime Minister Kebby Musokotwane and Zambia's Minister of Finance Basil Kabwe that it was true that some mistakes have been made, both at the Ministry of Finance and National Commission for Development Planning and at the Bank of Zambia but assured the EEC delegate that every possible measure was being done to correct the mistakes.

Dr Kaunda said Zambia had always been aware that her future lay in agriculture but attributed lack of advances in this field to earlier policies which placed emphasis on subsidies for consumer goods other than on production. He admitted that presently the economy had moved form bad to worse forcing the government to take tough measures to save the country from collapse. He added that the EEC has been a very good partners in Zambia's development efforts and hoped this would continue.

Mr Filori said the EEC was sympathetic to Zambia's economic problems and would do all it could to assist in the measures to improve the economy. He said the EEC headquarters in Brussels has been following with interest and great admiration the economic reforms that Zambia had taken to improve her economy. Filori said the EEC will not stand by and watch Zambia grapple with its problems but will give concrete assistance especially in the mining field to assist the reorganisation exercise and in the restructuring of the agricultural sector. The EEC is pumping in over 18 million U.S. dollars in the reorganisation of the mines.

ZIMBABWE

Minister Criticizes RSA Handling of Machel Crash

MB261440 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1246 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Harare Nov 26 SAPA — South Africa's handling of injured and dead victims of the crash that killed President Samora Machel was "a shame for civilised people", a senior Zimbabwean Government minister said here today.

The minister of information, posts and telecommunications, Dr Nathan Shamuyarira, told an anti-apartheid meeting that documents were taken from the pockets of the dead, luggage confiscated and searched in Pretoria and documents were copied before they were handed back to the Mozambican authorities.

ZIANA, the semi-official news agency, quoted Dr Shamuyarira as saying: "I do not want to pre-empt the findings of the commission of inquiry, but the circumstances surrounding the crash of that plane are such that they point a finger at the apartheid regime."

Dr Shamuyarira was addressing delegates at a three-day international Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) meeting on apartheid.

Documents taken from the wreckage, one of which had been released, were being used by Pretoria to create conflict between Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe, he said. "They have more documents which they hope to release from time to time to cause conflict via propaganda."

Zimbabwe had assured Malawi that "we have no bad intentions toward them and want to solve problems through dialogue". Dr Shamuyarira said there were difficulties in relations with Malawi, but they were not serious and could be overcome by dialogue "and need not be taken up by conflict".

"Similar discussions were being held with Zaire. This is very important to the assistance we must give to our struggling brothers in South Africa.

"The major difficulties with South Africa can only be resolved by the struggle that is taking place. Our fighting with South Africa is to supplement the struggle through economic sanctions and assistance to the liberation movements," Dr Shamuyarira said. As was the case in the struggle against Rhodesia, the political objective of sanctions had to be dismantling of apartheid. A "serious sanctions programme" was on the agenda and would be followed "with strength and vigour". I would "hit the South Africans more," Dr Shamuyarira said.

"We have called on the support of our people to tighten belts as we enter a period of sanctions against South Africa. It is a continuing struggle and the beginning of a long struggle to final liberation and independence. Economic sanctions alone will not bring down the South African regime. Economic action, political organisation and mass struggle will put pressure on the system, leading to its breakdown and national independence," said the minister.

The chairman of political and administrative studies at the University of Zimbabwe, Dr Rukudzo Murapa, said Zimbabwe was playing a leading role in establishing the Beira Corridor as an alternative transport route to the sea and in protecting the Beira-Mutare railway and road.

"South Africa's destablisation activities have led Zimbabwe and other Frontline countries to rise up to the challenge and reach new levels of vigilance and creativity," Dr Murapa said. He said South Africa was "continuing to spread disinformation." He referred to statements by South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, that the crew of President Machel's plane was unprofessional, that the pilot had been drinking and that the plane was not airworthy. "Clearly these statements were deliberately aimed at detracting the world's attention from the role that regime may have played in the disaster," said Dr Shamuyarira.

Implies RSA To Blame

MB261815 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] The minister of information, posts, and telecommunications, Comrade Nathan Shamuyarira, told an anti-aparthied meeting in Harare today that some documents were taken from the dead, their luggage was searched, and some documents copied before being handed over to the Mozambican authorities. Comrade Shamuyarira said, although the commission of inquiry into the causes of the plane crash has not yet come up with a conclusion, the circumstances surrounding the crash point a finger at the apartheid regime of South Africa.

He said the documents taken from the wreckage were being used by South Africa to create conflict between Malawi and Zimbabwe, on one hand, and Mozambique and Zimbabwe on the other.

Comrade Shamuyarira also said Zimbabwe's position regarding South Africa was to supplement the armed struggle through economic sanctions and assistance to liberation movements.

Minister Dismisses Claims of Plot Against Malawi

MB261152 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] The minister of information, posts, and telecommunications, Comrade Nathan Shamuyarira, has praised the oppressed black majority in South Africa for their increased resistance to apartheid. Addressing a 4-day conference in Harare on apartheid, Comrade Shamuyarira stressed the need for an extensive mobilization campaign throughout the world to boost the anti-apartheid campaign. He expressed satisfaction with the sanctions onslaught against the Botha administration, adding that the struggle against apartheid must be waged from the political, diplomatic, and military fronts.

Comrade Shamuyarira dismissed allegations by the South African regime that Zimbabwe and the other Frontline States are plotting to overthrow the Malawian Government. He said differences between Zimbabwe and Malawi will be resolved through negotiation.

CPSU Delegation Meets With Prime Minister

MB261150 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has called for a strong alliance between ZANU-PF and the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. Comrade Mugabe made the call when he received the Soviet delegation which paid a courtesy call on him at his office at Munhumutapa Building today. He said Zimbabwe will benefit from the Soviet Union in establishing a socialist state, adding that the proposed alliance will also enable government-to-government relations to prosper. The delegation of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union presented Comrade Mugabe with a complete set of the first works of Lenin.

CPSU Delegation Meets Bulawayo ZANU Leaders

MB271624 Dakar PANA in English 1542 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Bulawayo, 27 Nov (ZIANA/PANA) — The visiting delegation of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union held discussions with ZANU (PF) leaders in Bulawayo this morning. The discussions which centered on cooperation in development projects were attended by the provincial chairman of the party, Callistus Ndlovu, provincial Governor Jacob Mudenda and other senior party officials. ZANU (PF) deputy secretary for commissariat and culture, Nelson Mawema, said the visitors would tour a number of youth and municipality projects.

Foreign Minister Leaves for Zambian Talks

MB271939 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Witness Mangwende, left Harare this morning for Lusaka, Zambia, where he will hold talks with senior government officials. The talks are expected to focus on a number of international issues.

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FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

1 DECEMBER 1986

Lebanon

The camps war continued over the weekend, with Beirut radio and other local stations reporting continuing clashes between Amal and Palestinian gunmen in Maghdushah and around the Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah camps in the capital. A PLO military spokesman cited by Sanaa Voice of Palestine radio 30 November stated that Palestinian joint forces gained complete control of Maghdushah and repulsed repeated attacks on Shatila, which was bombarded by tanks and rocket launchers. In contrast, Amal Movement statements broadcast by Beirut radio asserted that Amal retained control of Maghdushah and that its fighters "exterminated" Palestinian gunmen in a Palestine Liberation Army building near Shatila.

As for the efforts in Damascus to formulate a workable cease-fire, PFLP-GC leader Ahmad Jibril announced 30 November that Syria, Libya, and Iran have agreed on a joint plan containing guarantees for both Amal and the Palestinians, though he noted that the "final touches" have not yet been completed, AFP reported. The new peace efforts follow the failure of a 27 November cease-fire agreement, which was rejected by the PLO as containing insufficient guarantees for the Palestinians, according to AFP. The agency said the casualty toll from the renewed fighting included 32 killed 28 November and around 100 killed over the weekend.

Regarding Libya's efforts to end the fighting, Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio noted that Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi telephoned Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad 28 November about the "grave" situation in Shatila, adding that the Libyan leader urged Al-Asad to intervene personally to save the Palestinians from "mass annihilation" by the Shi'ite "despair" gangs. Libyan Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud subsequently held further contacts with Syrian and Palestinian leaders in Damascus in order to stop Amal's "genocidal war," JANA noted. Jallud also discussed the camps war with Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and Revolution Guards Corps Minister Mohsen Rafiqdust, IRNA reported. In contrast with Libya's view of the situation in Lebanon, Tehran radio blamed PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat for the fighting, asserting that the Amal-Palestinian clashes began when 'Arafat's forces attacked Amal positions in an attempt to establish an autonomous Palestinian region.

For the PLO's part, 'Arafat told Radio Monte Carlo that Syria has sent special forces and tanks to assist the Amal offensive against Shatila and he said the negotiations in Damascus are "a plot to throw dust in the eyes" because President al-Asad could stop the fighting if he wanted. The PLO representative in Tunis announced that the PLO has called for an emergency meeting of Arab League foreign ministers to discuss the attacks on the Palestinian camps, WAKH reported.

Syria

President al-Asad received visiting Iranian Foreign Minister Velayati and Revolution Guards Minister Rafiqdust 29 November, Damascus radio reported, noting that Velayati delivered a message from President 'Ali Khamene'i.

Al-Asad also held talks with Libyan Staff Major Jallud the following day, according to Damascus television, which said the discussion focused on the Arab situation and issues of common concern. Meanwhile, Damascus radio broadcast a statement issued by the General Secretariat of the Pan-Arab Command of the Arab Revolutionary Forces, issued at the end of its recent meeting in Damascus chaired by Jallud. The statement, which was also broadcast by Libya's Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio, denounced the "imperialist hysterical campaign" against Syria, warning that this is a preparation for "direct military aggression" on the latter.

Regarding relations with Saudi Arabia, Damascus radio said the Syrian and Saudi interior ministers signed a cooperation protocol during the latter's 5-day visit to Syria. The radio cited the Syrian minister's statement that his country is eager to increase security cooperation with all Arab states.

Iran-Iraq War

Military Activity — Iranian aircraft bombed an Iraqi radar station at Rawanduz as well as economic targets in Raniyah and Qareh-Tappeh 28 November, according to a military communique cited by IRNA.

Iranian Comments — President 'Ali Khamene'i warned "reactionary" countries 29 November that as long as their assistance to Iraq continues, Iran will place them in the "same category" as Iraq and will "give them an appropriate response," Tehran radio reported. He reaffirmed Iran's claim that Iraq's attack on Larak Island was made possible by such countries placing bases, airports, and facilities at Iraq's disposal.

As for the U.S. arms deal, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani commented on President Reagan's statement about trying to contact "moderate" elements in Iran, asserting in a sermon cited by the radio that the entire nation from the leadership downward are "moderate" because Iranians are neither prepared to submit to "bullying capitalists" nor to "tyrannical communists." If the Americans stop "bullying" and return Iran's confiscated assets the latter will ask the Lebanese to assist in the hostage problem, he added. However, he stressed that the Americans should not "distort" the hostage issue by relating it to the purchase of weapons. The Majlis speaker denied that Iran has purchased weapons from Israel, telling the United States that it should not "drag in the name of Israel" in its attempts to "defame" Iran. Regarding Soviet criticisms of the U.S.-Iran arms deal, he said the USSR "misused this issue" by claiming that the deal is prolonging the war, adding that if the Soviet Union wishes to see the war end it should stop supplying Iraq.

Nevertheless, a Tehran radio report on Soviet-Iranian economic talks in Moscow spoke of mutual "satisfaction" with the "growing pace" of bilateral relations, noting that a joint economic cooperation commission will convene in Tehran 8-12 December.

Greek Paper on Iranian Tapes — The Athens paper *Dhimokratikos Logos published a "world exclusive" report 29 November* on the alleged contents of tape recordings of conversations between Robert McFarlane and Iranian leaders. The report included claims that the U.S.-Iran deal was worth $1.3 billion and that the United States urged Iran to expand the war.

Iraqi Political Moves — The Iraqi National Assembly condemned "Iranian-Israeli-U.S. military cooperation" in a 30 November statement cited by INA, adding that it cannot accept U.S. justifications for shipping military equipment to Iran. Meanwhile, the foreign minister sent messages to the Arab League, the ICO, and the Nonaligned Movement on the issue, according to INA.

Saudi, Gulf Developments — A Saudi spokesman cited by SPA 29 November denied "ridiculous" reports that Saudi Arabia was involved in the U.S.-Iranian negotiations, reaffirming the Kingdom's "firm denial" of rumors that it had prior knowledge of the U.S.-Iranian deal. In the Gulf, Iranian Foreign Ministry official Mohammad Hoseyn Lavasani held talks with UAE officials in Abu Dhabi and Al-Shariqah over the weekend, WAKH noted. According to IRNA, the ruler of Al-Shariqah told Lavasani that contacts between Iran and the UAE should be increased, and he expressed "deep regret" over the recent attack on the offshore oil platform at Abu al-Bakhush.

Israel

U.S.-Iran Affair — Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir reviewed the issue of arms transfers to Iran during a 30 November cabinet meeting, IDF radio noted. Shamir stated earlier that if the United States demands to question Israeli officials on the affair, Israel will consider "each case on its merits," according to *The Jerusalem Post*, which also quoted a statement by a "top-level source" that Israel would cooperate fully with U.S. investigators as it has "nothing to hide." The *Post* listed arms merchant Ya'aqov Nimrodi among the Israelis expected to be questioned, and *Hadashot* cited reports that Nimrodi and Al Schwimmer made "millions of dollars" from transporting arms to Iran. However, Nimrodi maintained in a Jerusalem radio interview that he has "not made even one tiny deal" with Iran since the fall of the shah, stating that he received nothing except "appreciation and blessings" for using his connections with Iran to secure the release of U.S. hostage Benjamin Weir in September 1985. After Weir's release the Americans "continued the negotiations without me," Nimrodi said, adding that he was "not involved in any more moves." In contrast, a senior official cited by *Ha'Aretz* stated that Israeli middlemen meddled with the Swiss bank account used for the Iran deal and "this may explain the disappearance of millions of dollars from the account."

Tabah Arbitration — The cabinet ratified the Tabah arbitration bill during its 30 November session, Jerusalem radio reported, noting that arbitration will begin in Geneva in around 2 weeks. One minister opposing the bill was Industry and Commerce Minister Ari'el Sharon, who said the bill should be postponed until Egypt fulfills several conditions including the closure of PLO offices in Cairo.

Kuwait

One man was sentenced to death and another to life imprisonment for the May 1985 attack on the motorcade of Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, KUNA reported 29 November, adding that three other defendents were acquitted.

PDRY

A "counterrevolutionary gang" arrested in late October confessed that former PDRY leader 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his supporters supplied the gang with money and weapons for the purpose of sabatoge, Aden radio reported 28 November.

Sudan

According to an *Al-Usbu'* report cited by AFP, 15 people were injured when unidentified planes bombed the northeastern coastal town of Tokar 27 November.

FBIS

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Pan-Arab Command Calls for Boycott of UK, U.S.

LD300220 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] The General Secretariat of the Pan-Arab Command of the Arab Revolutionary Forces today concluded its emergency meeting in Damascus and issued the following statement:

In keeping with our pan-Arab and revolutionary historic responsibilities in confronting the imperialist-Zionist, racist, aggressive scheme to which Syria and the Arab nation are exposed, the General Secretariat of the Pan-Arab Command of the Arab Revolutionary Forces held an emergency meeting in Damascus from 27 to 29 November 1986.

The Secretariat studied the colonialist, racist, terrorist aggression to which Syria, the principal fortress of steadfastness and an effective member of the Pan-Arab Command, is exposed. It is an aggression led by the United States and Britain designed to strike the steadfastness of Syria, liquidate the Palestinian cause and the Lebanese patriotic resistance, and threaten its pan-Arab existence.

The Arab nation today is facing one of the most prominent forms of terrorism: namely, organized state terrorism, practiced by the United States, Britain, and the Zionist enemy, in the form of economic blockade, sometimes imposing starvation; psychological terrorism; media campaigns against the Arab citizens; and even direct military aggression against the Great Jamahiriyah, designed to strike its revolution and assassinate its leader, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. Today, this aggression is taking the form of an imperialist hysterical campaign against steadfast Syria, under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad, as a preparation for direct military aggression against this struggling country.

The General Secretariat of the Pan-Arab Command of the Revolutionary Forces, as it distinguishes between terrorism and the legitimate, just struggle waged by the peoples defending their rights and causes, on the basis of clear ethical and revolutionary principles, calls on the United States and the European countries to stop the anti-Arab campaign and to abandon the provocative measures adopted against Syria. The General Secretariat warns these countries against the consequences of continuing the malicious campaign of hatred against the Arabs.

The General Secretariat condemns the spectator's stance of collusion adopted by the Arab reaction and the forces of capitulation and defeat. This stance encourages the United States and the European countries to proceed in their terrorist measures against Syria and Libya. The General Secretariat warns the Arab reaction regimes of the consequences of continuing to follow this course. The Arab Revolutionary Forces have the means to force the Arab regimes to change their stance to serve the interests of the Arab nation and to place all Arab resources and abilities against the United States and the West.

The Pan-Arab Command, as it decides to adopt tangible steps to confront the campaign in the political, media, economic, and military fields, stresses that the revolutionary detachments under the Pan-Arab Command of the Revolutionary Forces will shoulder the sacred pan-Arab duty of lighting a fire under the feet of the colonialists and their hirelings if they carried out their threat of aggression.

Any aggression against Syria is aggression against the Arab nation as a whole, from the ocean to the Gulf. Syria will not face the military aggression on its own; the battle will be open and comprehensive. We will not be more committed to peace than those who started the war, those who shoulder the responsibility of threatening peace in the region and in the world. The revolutionary violence will be a legitimate right and a sacred duty exercised by the revolutionary forces from striking the U.S. and imperialist interests in the Arab homeland to chasing these interests in the U.S. capitals and cities in the colonialist West.

The General Secretariat has decided the following:

First, in the media domain:

1. Every detachment should carry out a media campaign to respond to the hostile media campaign directed against Syria and the Arab nation, and to expose the goals and purposes of this hostile campaign;

2. A large-scale campaign of solidarity with Syria in cooperation with the parties, organizations, and revolutionary forces in the Arab world and the world at large should be organized;

3. The detachments of the Pan-Arab Command should adhere to a boycott of U.S. and British goods and interests and any quarter that follows in their footsteps;

4. Launch an information campaign to strengthen the concept of the armed struggle of the peoples for freedom and the liberation of their territories, and to expose the organized state terrorism being practiced by the United States and Zionism and its allies;

5. The detachments enlisted in the Pan-Arab Command undertake to prepare the Arab masses to launch a large-scale campaign to boycott U.S. and British interests and goods and any quarter that follows in their footsteps.

Second, in the military and security domains:

1. To monitor the hostile moves in the Arab and the international arenas, and to define the objectives, draw up the plans, and take the adequate measures to implement them at the moment of any aggression against any Arab country.

2. To mobilize the forces of the revolutionary detachments and draw up the necessary plans to fulfill their tasks at the proper time.

3. To begin the formation of a force from the revolutionary detachment that will be the core of the Pan-Arab People's Liberation Army.

The General Secretariat of the Arab Revolutionary Forces decides to remain at the maximum state of mobilization in implementation of the decision of the commander in chief, Brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, and to remain in session and set up a working group to follow up the implementation of its measures, prepare the plans for any emergency, and call for a meeting of the Pan-Arab Command if it is necessary.

The Secretariat also stresses the importance of adhering to what Hafiz al-Asad has said: Our will is solid, our faith is deep, our decision is decisive, our path is martyrdom, our example is martyr, and our motto is martyrdom or victory.

Signed: The General Secretariat of the Pan-Arab Command of the Revolutionary Forces in the Arab world. Issued in Damascus on 29 November 1986.

Habash Arrives in Algiers, Comments on PLO Unity

JN291714 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I in Arabic 27 Nov 86 pp 3, 20

[By 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Khashshan]

[Text] Algiers, Moscow — PFLP Secretary General George Habash arrived in Algiers from Moscow yesterday on a visit to Algeria that will last several days.

In a statement upon arrival, Habash said he will hold talks with senior Algerian officials on the Arab situation in general and the latest developments in the Palestinian arena in particular, in light of the endeavors to unite Palestinian ranks in response to the initiative by Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid.

In a statement to *Al-Ittihad* prior to his departure from Moscow, Habash said his talks with Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commander of the Palestinian Revolution forces and a member of the Fatah Central Committee, were held in a brotherly atmosphere and with a sense of responsibility. He said, during the talks, the PFLP put forward its views on the bases upon which PLO unity can be restored, foremost among which is the need to officially abrogate the Amman agreement and to adhere to the Baghdad summit resolutions on severing relations with the regime that accepted the Camp David accords; that is, to close the doors to the U.S. solution in Amman and Cairo.

The PLO views also provide for a collective PLO leadership and a review of PLO institutions, particularly the PNC and the Executive Committee. In his statement to *Al-Ittihad*,Habash said he affirmed to Abu Jihad that the PFLP will attend the next PNC session if these demands are met.

Asked about Moscow's stand on restoring unity to the PLO,George Habash said: The Soviet stand is clear and has been made public. It calls for restoring unity to the PLO on the basis of an anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist policy.

Asked about the PFLP stand toward the Amal and the battles taking place in Lebanon, Habash said, despite previous attempts to avoid the fighting so all Palestinian and Lebanese guns can be directed against the Zionist enemy, "thus far, we have not been able to avoid the bitter, bloody fighting that serves only the interests of the common enemy."

Habash added that the Amal's belief that the removal of the Palestinian gun from Lebanon will enable them to settle their affairs with Israel and to increase their share of the Lebanese cake, when there is a settlement in Lebanon is "an illusion."

In a statement to *Al-Ittihad*, an Arab official in Moscow said the speaker of the Algerian parliament, who is visiting the Soviet capital, will discuss with Andrey Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the unity of the factions of the Palestinian resistance to resolve the inter-Palestinian problem and the Palestinian-Syrian problem.

The source asserted that yesterday Habash informed the speaker of the Algerian parliament of the results of his talks with Abu Jihad and Soviet officials. The official explained that the visit to Moscow by the speaker of the Algerian parliament is within the framework of the Algerian initiative to achieve Palestinian unity.

Daily Interviews George Habash, Khalil al-Wazir

LD301547 Algiers APS in English 1016 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Algiers, 30/11/86 (APS) — Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], the deputy general commander of the Palestinian resistance, and the secretary general of the People's Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) [George Habash] explained in an interview with the national daily *Al-Sha'b* "the nature of the plots hatched against the Palestinian people and outlined the means to face up the Imperialist-Zionist attacks.

"The Palestinian revolution, Mr Abu Jihad said is passing through a difficult and dangerous period marked by the pursuit of the Israeli raids on the occupied territories, the blowing out of houses, the expulsing of Arab citizens and the persistence of fightings round the refugee camps in Lebanon.

"We should intensify our efforts and actions to achieve unity and resist the repeated attacks of the enemy", Mr Abu Jihad said on the attitude of the resistance before these attacks. Mr Abu Jihad said the Palestinian people is resolved to withstand these attacks either in the occupied territories or in the refugee camps in Lebanon, whatever the consequences".

Mr Abu Jihad called for support from Arab countries in regional and international forums to put an end to the aggressions perpetrated against the Palestinians".

George Habash said for his part that "the dangers threatening the Palestinian cause call for serious reflection on the unity of ranks to ward off threats and plots".

"Before the barbarian attacks launched by the Israeli forces we have to step up the armed struggle and carry on the combat until the setting up of a sovereign Palestinian state. It rests with us to materialize the aspiration of our popular masses after independence, he added.

Speaking about the clashes between the Palestinian refugees and "Amal" militiamen in south Lebanon, Mr Habash pointed out that the Palestinian resistance is in a position of self-defence."

"We are working to hammer out a political solution to the conflict so as to avoid bloodshed and focus our efforts on the struggle against the Zionist entity", he said.

Asked about PLO activities, Mr Habash said the organisation's thrust would be toward the armed struggle "to show the enemy that our people is resolved to conquer its rights to self-determination and independence and free its usurped homeland".

PNC Member Discusses Meeting With Egypt's al-Baz

JN291229 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 25 Nov 86 p 20

[Interview with PNC member Sa'id Kamal by correspondent Sawsan Abu Husayn in Cairo — date not given]

[Excerpts] [Abu Husayn] What topics did you discuss with Dr Usamah al-Baz [Egyptian first under secretary of the Foreign Ministry and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs] in your recent meeting with him?

[Kamal] The discussion dealt with Egypt's concept of the moves for an international conference, particularly since the PLO's overt and covert policy calls for pursuing the efforts to convene such a conference for a discussion of the Palestinian cause from all angles. In this respect, the Egyptian role is an essential and important one, particularly following President Mubarak's letter to the U.S. and USSR leaders during their recent summit meeting in Iceland. These preparatory consultations between the PLO and Egypt are needed within the context of addressing the two superpowers. It goes without saying that Egypt is assuming a responsibility for this conference and the elimination of the obstacles preventing it. The most important obstacle is that of the Palestinian representation which essentialy is one of the PLO's prerogatives. [passage omitted]

[Abu Husayn] What about the Palestinian resistance operation in Jerusalem? Did you discuss it in your meeting with Dr Usamah al-Baz?

[Kamal] We did not discuss this operation because Egypt's stand is well known: that all the peoples have the legitimate right to carry our armed struggle to liberate their usurped territories as is acknowledged in the UN Charter. A large PLO delegation visited Cairo last February under Yasir 'Arafat and the Fourth Cairo Declaration was issued at the time, reaffirming the legitimacy of armed struggle for all people. Egypt has supported Africa and it is only natural that it also supports the Palestinian people. As for the concomitants of the Jerusalem operation, they were a temporary matter that ended following the clarifications made.

[Abu Husayn] In light of the operation which took place in Jerusalem, Israel called for the closing of all PLO offices in all countries, and the United States rejected Shamir's request because there is no legal basis for such a request. What is the basis for such an Israeli request?

[Kamal] Israel is an enemy country and wages war on the PLO on all levels. We also wage war against it [Israel] on all levels. It is enough that the African countries severed their relations with Israel and set as a condition for their resumption Israel's complete withdrawal from all the Arab territories that were occupied in 1967.

The United States has no right to close PLO offices anywhere in the world. As for the PLO's Washington office, it is not like the other offices the PLO has, for example, in India, Moscow, and any Arab country. It is an information office established in accordance with U.S. laws and within the framework of the Arab League. Therefore, the U.S. rejection of the Israeli request is a foregone conclusion and not a stand in support of the PLO stand against Israel.

[Abu Husayn] What does Peres' exit and Shamir's assumption of power mean to the PLO?

[Kamal] This does not mean anything to us because the two parties have the same program and their strategic stands on foreign issues are agreed upon between them. [passage omitted]

[Abu Husayn] All the Arab countries, including the PLO, condemned the Peres-King Hassan II meeting while the Mubarak-Peres meeting took place in an atmosphere of Arab silence with the exception of Syria and Libya, and the PLO did not comment on this meeting. Why?

[Kamal] Because the Palestinian command believes President Mubarak to be a patriotic man who would not agree to have Israeli conditions imposed on him at this meeting. From this premise, the Palestinian command decided to deal with this incident and become aware of its dimensions through consultations with Egypt, a course of action which it started in 1983. In view of the fact that Egypt is the largest Arab state that confronts Israel politically and diplomatically in the international arena, the PLO decided to remain silent and to conduct a dialogue with Egypt to become acquainted with Egypt's views on the contents of the joint [Israeli-Egyptian] communique, one of whose provisions stipulated the discussion of the Palestinian cause from all its political, religious, and humanitarian angles. As long as Peres agreed to discuss these issues, then there was no objection. That's why the PLO decided not to issue an official statement in condemnation or in support of it, to enable dialogue and consultations to continue, to make the announcement that 1987 would be the year of negotiations. [passage omitted]

[Abu Husayn] One of Shamir's advisers has said he believes that Shamir's government will lay down the basis for autonomy in the West Bank with or without an official agreement with Jordan and the Palestinians. What do you have to say about this?

[Kamal] If this is Shamir's policy, then he would be encouraging the escalation of armed struggle in the occupied territories and enhancing the Palestinian people's cohesion. [passage omitted]

[Abu Husayn] It has been reported that Palestinian-Soviet relations have developed since 1974 and have further developed since the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement out of fear that Jordan would be targeted and the PLO dragged into political solutions under U.S. supervision in Moscow's absence.

[Kamal] In light of its experience since 1965, the PLO realizes the importance of strategic cooperation with the Jordanian people. As for Palestinian-Soviet relations, we find that the Soviet stand has now become clearer and supports the PLO as the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative. The USSR also believes it must must play an effective role in a settlement, if there is any settlement of the Middle East cause, in view of the fact that it is a superpower. [passage omitted]

[Abu Husayn] Are there other alternatives currently being discussed in the political arena for approximating Jordanian- Palestinian viewpoints?

[Kamal] Two Arab countries are currently undertaking unpublicized sincere efforts to restore Jordanian-PLO dialogue. There are no concessions and the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship is a multifaceted and historical relationship. [passage omitted]

Al-Hasan Paves Way for 'Arafat's Visit to Cairo

JN292100 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 28 Nov 86

[Text] *Al-Ittihad* has learned that Fatah Central Committee member Hani al-Hasan's current visit to Cairo aims to pave the way for Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Cairo in response to President Husni Mubarak's invitation following King Husayn's visit to Egypt on the one hand and to discuss the possibility of restoring Jordanian-PLO coordination following the declared Egyptian desire in this regard.

Reliable Palestinian sources have stressed to *Al-Ittihad* that the delay in 'Arafat's visit to Cairo is due to the fact that he is busy following the battles currently raging in Lebanon and supervising contacts regarding the development of these battles.

These sources affirmed that Palestinian-Jordanian relations are currently experiencing a clear relaxation and that the restoration of coordination has almost been decided, even if it will take a new form. The sources added that the restoration of coordination does not conflict with the current moves to achieve national Palestinian unity, which calls for the abrogation of the Amman agreement.

PLO Requests Arab League Meeting on Camps War

JN300702 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0550 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Tunis, 30 Nov (WAKH) — The PLO has called for an emergency meeting of the Arab League Council on the foreign ministers' level to discuss the attacks on the Palestinian camps in Beirut and southern Lebanon.

Hakam Bal'awi, the PLO representative in Tunis and its permanent representative at the Arab League, said an urgent memorandum to this effect was submitted to the Arab League's General Secretariat yesterday evening, pointing out that the memorandum included a call for stopping the liquidation and extermination operations to which the camps are being subjected.

Monte Carlo Radio Interviews 'Arafat on Camps War

JN282007 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1750 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat — identified by his nom de guerre Abu 'Ammar — by Hasan al-Kashif in Baghdad; date not given — recorded]

[Text] [Al-Kashif] Brother Abu 'Ammar, can you tell us about the current developments? Today's reports dealt with the escalating fighting in the south and in Beirut.

['Arafat] As you know, my brother heroes are defending our children, women, and camps with their bare chests against this tripartite Israeli-Syrian-Amal attack, in cooperation with the Lebanese Army rebels, such as the 6th Brigade and the Lebanese brigade in Al-Biqa' under Ibrahim Shahin's command. In the last 72 hours, important developments took place. The first development was Israel's intervention [words indistinct] by establishing an operations room for coordinating the current operations in southern Lebanon against the Palestinians.

[Al-Kashif] You mean Israel's intervention in decisionmaking or in the battles themselves?

['Arafat] In both. The decision was made to establish this operations coordination room to direct battles against the Palestinians and to support the Amal Movement. Today, after the meeting of the inner cabinet in Israel, a new development occurred. The cabinet reached important decisions. The first was to extend air, naval, and artillery support to the Amal forces the moment they ask for it. Today and yesterday, Israel raided camps 'Ayn al-Hulwah, Al-Miyah wa Miyah, and those east of Sidon. Today, the artillery of Lahd's army helped shell Al-Rashidiyah, 'Ayn al-Hulwah, and Al-Miyah wa Miyah, as well as Sidon, alongside Syrian long-range 130mm artillery stationed in Sofar, Al-Matn, and Mashgharah, and which also participated in shelling Sidon, 'Ayn al-Hulwah, and Al-Miyah wa Miyah. At the same time, Syria's heavy artillery in Sofar and Al-Matn shelled the camps of Burj al-Barajinah and Shatila.

In a new Syrian development, the 6th Brigade, two regiments from the Ibrahim Shahin Brigade, and the 2d (?Al-Asad) Battalion — which includes Syrian special forces, the Syrian T-54, T-55, and the Patton-48, and other tanks, armored cars, and vehicles on which various weapons are mounted — were mobilized yesterday. This battle against the Shatila camp is directed by Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an himself in the joint operations room. It is very interesting to note that Eli Hubayqah is now contributing a symbolic force to his new allies — the Syrians and the Amal gangs.

[Al-Kashif] In the southern battles or in Beirut?

['Arafat] In Beirut. I say this is the situation in Beirut, Sidon, and Al-Rashidiyah. Since 0700, efforts have been continuing to storm Shatila. However, all these attempts were repelled, thanks to the courage, faith, and steadfastness of those defending their children, women, and camps. I want to ask Hafiz al-Asad, the Syrian regime and the entire Arab nation. Does the Shatila camp expand? Do the camps of Burj al-Barajinah or Al-Rashidiyah expand?

[Al-Kashif] The expansion was talked about during the Maghdushah battle.

['Arafat] As you know Tallat al-Sayyidah is overlooking the camps of 'Ayn al-Hulwah and Al-Miyah wa Miyah. The Amal gangs were there and also a battalion of the 12th Brigade, which belongs to the Amal Movement's leadership. By the way, Maghdushah was liberated by the Palestinians.

[Al-Kashif] Liberated from whom?

['Arafat] It was liberated from the Lahd forces and the Phalangist forces in 1985 when they occupied 'Afrah, Al-Hilaliyah, and Al-Tayyahah. At the request of Nazih Al-Bizri [Lebanese Chamber of Deputies member from Sidon], we purged these places up to Kafr Falus. Then, the Amal Movemet arrived and asked us to give it those areas because they overlooked their villages. Regrettably, they — being sectarians spoke of them as their Shi'ite villages. We occupied — rather controled — this hill [Tallat al-Sayyidah] to stop the fire and the shelling of our children, women, and homes in 'Ayn al-Hulwah and Al-Miyah wa Miyah.

I want to ask all those who claim they are pan-Arabists and patriots — most of them are now silent — if the 62 days of siege around the Al-Rashidiyah camp didn't move your conscience? During these 62 days, water was allowed in the camp but no food was allowed. Now, when we move to control the Tallat al-Sayyidah in Maghdushah to silence the guns that shell our people, they raise a hue and cry. That is really strange.

Now there is an operations room in Damascus exactly like the operations room existing in northern Palestine. One is under the command of the Israeli chief of staff and the other is under the command of Syrian Chief of Staff Hikmat al-Shihabi in cooperation with Ghazi Kan'an and Khaddam. Now there is a tripartite Israeli-Syrian-Amal aggression against us.

Israel's inner cabinet decided to ask the United States to pressure Syria into sending forces to Beirut and Sidon near the red lines agreed on in the Vienna agreement; that is, the line dividing the spheres of influence between the Israelis and the Syrians. Now I want to ask a question on what is taking place against these camps. It is a new Karbala' [battle in the 7th century in which the grandson of the Prophet Muhammad and his Shi'ite followers were massacred]. I want to ask the religious Shi'ite brothers where they stand and how they feel about the new Karbala' to which their Palestinian brothers are being exposed? It is a Karbala' by the Amal gangs in the south with Israel's support, in Beirut with Syrian support, and in Sidon with Syrian-Israeli support.

[Al-Kashif] Brother Abu 'Ammar, over the past few days, the Syrian capital was a center of activity and there were contacts, agreements, and discussions...

[Arafat — interrupts] Brother Hasan, for 62 days the Palestinians suffered. This is a plot to throw dust in the eyes, mollify Arab feelings, and deceive the Palestinians. Can Hafiz al-Asad and the Syrian regime convince me that they cannot tell Nabih Birri: Stop it, boy; be quiet, boy; get lost, boy? We know everything. If they cannot tell him that why do they send him tanks, artillery, and forces? They sent the Ibrahim Shahin regiment supplied with Syrian helicopters and hovercrafts. They sent this to Sidon when Israeli Phantom aircraft were bombing Al-Miyah wa Miyah, 'Ayn al-Hulwah, and Sidon.

[Al-Kashif] Then you consider that the talk about agreements and negotiations is meant to prevent an Arab intervention to stop the attack on the camps?

['Arafat] Yes, regrettably, they are meant to allay Arab fears, throw dust in the eyes, and deceive. No more and no less. The [word indistinct] cannot be done except through one decision by Hafiz al-Asad: If he tells these boys to stop, if he tells Kan'an to stop, and if he tells his chief of staff to stop these Syrian guns and artillery from firing at the Palestinians. But I want to tell Hafiz al-Asad [words indistinct].

[Al-Kashif] Brother Abu 'Ammar, what about the Palestinian position inside the camps?

['Arafat] God be praised. [words indistinct] all the Palestinian forces are fighting like one man in defense of their children, women, and camps. God will support these forces.

[Al-Kashif] In your opinion, what is the cause of all these battles? What is all this [word indistinct] for?

['Arafat] Do you remember, Hasan, when I said the Israeli aim — and I remember Sharon when he said the aim [of the Israeli invasion] is to strike at the PLO's infrastructure — is to strike at the Palestinian camps? Sharon said the Palestinian camps must be moved. Now they are implementing Sharon's original plan. Now their cooperation is clear to the entire Arab nation. I appeal to the Arab nation to intervene and stop the attacks, this madness, this despicable crime.

[Al-Kashif] Did you ask for Arab intervention?

['Arafat] Of course we did. I say this because the aim is to displace the Palestinians in order to establish the sectarian cantons. I am sorry to ask my Shi'ite brothers if they agree that the price of the Shi'ite canton be Palestinian blood. This is a very abhorant price. Palestinian blood for a Shi'ite canton. You asked me if we moved. Yes, our problem is on the UN table with the Arab group president at the UN Security Council — the UAE representative. We asked that an urgent complaint be presented to the Security Council. I contacted the USSR representative. I sent letters to Soviet friends, Chinese friends, and French friends — the three permanent UN Security Council members. I also sent a letter to British friends because they once participated in the multinational force which [word indistinct] in these camps. They are at least morally responsible for the camps protection. I contacted the nonaligned states, the Islamic states, and the friendly states and explained this crime, the crime of the age.

[Al-Kashif] We thank PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat for this interview with Monte Carlo Radio.

'Arafat Wants Discussion of Arms Deal at Summit

JN292019 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1840 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Paris, 29 Nov (INA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has asked the Arab regimes that support the Iranian regime, as well as the Syrian regime, to define their positions now on the Iranian-U.S.-Zionist contacts and the issue of supplying Iran with U.S. weapons through the Zionist entity. In an exclusive statement to Radio L'Orient, which broadcasts in Arabic from Paris, 'Arafat said these contacts are very serious and will be discussed during the forthcoming Islamic summit conference to be convened in Kuwait. Regarding the possibility of discussing the issue of the U.S.-Zionist arms deals with Iran during an Arab summit conference, he said some Arab countries, and the Syrian regime in particular, reject the convening of such an Arab summit conference, stressing that he supports the convening of such a conference to take more resolute decisions to stop the deteriorating situation in the region. [passage omitted]

Urges Leaders To End Fighting

JN291533 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1420 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 29 Nov (WAKH) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat today called on the Arab leaders to stop the armed attacks against the inhabitants of the Palestinian camps in Lebanon and save them from the current annihilation campaign. During his meeting with the Arab ambassadors in Baghdad, 'Arafat asked them to convey urgent messages from him to their countries' leaders to take a quick step to save 1 million Palestinians in the camps in Lebanon.

In a statement to a WAKH correspondent in Baghdad, an authorized Palestinian spokesman said 'Arafat presented to the Arab ambassadors a detailed explanation on the current situation and the fighting raging between Amal Movement militias and the defenders of the camps. 'Arafat, who canceled all of his appointments to follow up the fighting, held telephone contact with the resistance leaders in the Palestinian camps in Lebanon this morning to acquaint himself with the latest reports on the situation there and to give them instructions to repulse the attacks and keep the camps safe.

'Arafat urged the Arab leaders to support a Palestinian complaint for convening an urgent meeting of the UN Security Council to discuss the plot, as he said, against the camps. The Palestinian spokesman described the current situation in the camps as very difficult, and said the fighting increases day after day, adding that the Amal Movement did not cease fire in accordance with yesterday's decision, but continued its attacks around the camps. [passage omitted]

Briefs PRC, Socialist Envoys

JN291917 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1815 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has received the Chinese ambassador in Baghdad for the second time in 48 hours. He informed him of the recent military and political developments in the war against the Palestinian camps. He asked him to convey these developments to the Chinese leadership.

Brother leader Abu 'Ammar received the socialist states' ambassadors in Baghdad for the same purpose. 'Arafat informed them of the need for immediate action to stop the hideous massacres against the Palestinian people in Lebanon, which are part of the Israeli-U.S. scheme to destroy the PLO's infrastructure by destroying the Palestinian camps and expelling their inhabitants from Lebanon.

PLO Official Claims Syria Key to Ending Camp War

NC291503 Paris AFP in English 1452 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Excerpts] Algiers, Nov 29 (AFP) — Syria holds the key to putting an end to attacks by Amal Shi'ite Militiamen on Palestinain refugee camps in Lebanon, Abu Jihad, the Palestine Liberation Organization's (PLO) second-in-command said here on Saturday.

"Whether the aggression ends or carries on is essentially Syria's responsibility," he told *Agence France-Presse*. "This aggression, unfortunately, takes place with the backing, help, protection and logistics of the Syrian regime."

Abu Jihad, who arrived here on Friday for the third set of talks in two weeks with George Habash, leader of the PLO'S radical Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, said Amal fighters also received backing from the Lebanese Army's 1st and 6th Brigades.

The Shi'ite militiamen were "taken by helicopter to the combat zone" and were further helped by the Israeli Army's "bombarding of Palestinian positions and imposition of a naval blockade in the south." [passage omitted]

Abu Jihad, whose real name is Khalil al-Wazir, urged "all Arab circles capable of intervening with the Syrian brothers to act quickly and put an end to this crime against the Palestinian people."

"The Palestinians are in agreement for preserving the independence, sovereignty and the Arab nature of Lebanon, but they refuse to be the victims of new massacres," he said in the appeal, issued to coincide with International Palestine Day. "We don't seek to counter anyone's influence." [passage omitted]

He appealed to the different Palestinian groups to close ranks "in these particularly dangerous circumstances" and said that unity among inhabitants in the Lebanese camps was "a first practical step."

Abu Jihad also announced that he had held a third round of talks with Mr Habash following meetings last week in Prague and Moscow.

Palestinian sources have said that this third session would be critical in breaching serious differences within the PLO.

Salah Khalaf Says PLO Rejects Damascus Agreement

JN301925 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1816 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], Fatah Central Committee member, stressed the PLO's rejection of the conditions of the so-called Damascus agreement on the camps war. He said this agreement does not guarantee the safety of our Palestinian people in their camps in Beirut and southern Lebanon.

In statements published in Tunis yesterday, brother Abu Iyad added that the PLO rejects this agreement because it only stipulates the withdrawal of the hero Palestinian fighters from their positions in the town of Maghdushah and for handing over this town to the Zionist Amal gangs.

Brother Abu Iyad stressed that any agreement to stop the treacherous aggression being carried out by the agent Amal gangs,with the participation and support of the Syrian regime and the Zionist enemy, must include the lifting of the siege from our people's camps in Beirut and southern Lebanon and the agent gangs' promise not to attack or shell the Palestinian camps.

Paper Discusses Damascus Meetings on Camps War

JN301110 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 30 Nov 86 pp 1, 3

[By Lamis K. Andoni]

[Text] A total collapse of talks here to end six weeks of fighting around Palestinian camps in Lebanon appeared to have been averted on Saturday after Iranian mediators tabled a new proposal giving life to negotiations that seemed to be heading nowhere Friday night.

However, there was no certainty that the Iranian proposal, put forward by Foreign Minister Akbar Velayati who arrived here on Friday night, could signal an immediate ceasefire around the Palestinian camps besieged by the Lebanese Shi'ite Amal militia. Reports from the Lebanese capital Saturday said Amal men were closing in on the Shatila refugee camp in Beirut under barrage of heavy tank and artillery fire. Elsewhere, Palestinian fighters appeared to be holding fast against concerted Amal onslaughts, according to the reports.

Both sides ignored a deadline for a truce that was to come into force Friday afternoon and continued fighting around the Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah camps in Beirut and the Maghdushah hills and al-Rashidiyah refugee camp in South Lebanon.

Mr. Velayati held a round of talks with Libyan number two Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud immediately after his arrival on Friday night. Sources in the Libyan delegation, which has been mediating with Amal and the Palestinians along with Syria and a low-level Iranian team, told the *Jordan Times* on Saturday that Libya was extremely "frustrated with the failure" of a nine- point proposal that had called for Friday's truce that went ignored.

The sources said Maj. Jallud was the major force behind drafting the proposal and was "deeply disappointed" when it foundered even before it was signed by the concerned parties.

Maj. Jallud was about to leave Damascus in anger when the Iranians came out with a new proposal which was described by informed sources as "expected to be satisfactory to the Palestinians as well as Amal."

No details were available on the terms included in the proposal, but Palestinian sources said "the initial (tentative) draft has adequately addressed the situation" in the Palestinian camps in Lebanon.

Meanwhile, Elie Hubayqah, the ousted pro-Syrian leader of the Lebanese right-wing Lebanese Forces militia, categorically denied reports that his supporters were fighting alongside Amal against the Palestinians in the Shatila camp.

"I am not a party to this conflict and our forces have not taken part in any fighting" in the Amal-Palestinian battles, Mr. Hubayqah told the *Jordan Times* in an interview on Saturday. He ruled out ordering his men to fight "any battle that would not lead to the reestablishment of a strong nationalist government in Lebanon."

The "camps war" in Lebanon, he said, was a byproduct of the main problem — "the absence of a strong sovereign government."

He said he was seeking the creation of a "strong and stable Arab Lebanon" and vowed "I will struggle to achieve it, along with all other patriotic and secular parties in Lebanon."

He explained the state he envisioned was "far from any factional or sectarian framework."

However, he said, he opposed a return of Palestinian military power to Lebanon since such an eventuality would undermine all efforts to restore peace in the country based on disbanding all militias and confiscation of weapons and entrusting the Lebanese army with supervising law and order.

The sources in the Libyan delegation blamed Syria for the failure of the earlier nine-point proposal. "Syria could have pushed for the implementation of the agreement (by effecting an immediate ceasfire) and could have breached the signing at a later stage," said one member of the Libyan delegation, who refused to be identified.

On the other side, confusion appeared to prevail on the Amal stand over the proposal. Some sources close to Amal leader Nabih Birri said Mr. Birri was unlikely to accept the new plan but others were optimistic that the Lebanese justice minister would endorse the proposal with amendments.

In any event, Mr. Birri has made clear that he would accept any reestablishment of PLO power in Lebanon. [sentence as received] Amal contends that PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat is trying to stage a military comeback in Lebanon and restore the power the PLO lost in Lebanon after the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

Amal also considers the fighting in Lebanon as an Amal war with Fatah, the mainstream PLO commando movement and Mr. 'Arafat's powerbase in the PLO, despite the fact that the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), which is at odds with 'Arafat, is representing the Palestinians in the Damascus talks.

As the fighting raged around Palestinian camps in Beirut, reports reaching here spoke of fears among Palestinians of possible "massacres" in Shatila if the shanty town fell to Amal.

Another unconfirmed report said a chemical bomb was dropped in the Burj al-Barajinah camp and many people were suffering from nausea and dizziness as a result.

Palestinian sources also claimed that Amal had already carried out a massacre of Palestinian women and children in Al-Ru'us camp in South Lebanon. There was no way to confirm these reports.

Mr. Velayati met Syrian President Hafiz Al-Asad on Saturday and conveyed a message from Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i, Syria's official news agency SANA reported.

SANA gave no details of the contents of the message or of the Al-Asad-Velayati talks, but a diplomatic source told REUTER both focused on Tehran's "concern over escalation of fighting in Beirut and South Lebanon."

Another Iranian envoy, Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Shaykh ol-Elsam, returned from Beirut Friday after meeting Shaykh Muhammad Shams al-Din, deputy chairman of Lebanon's higher Shi'ite Islamic council.

Iranian officials said he also exchanged views on the situation in Lebanon with Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, leader of the pro-Iranian Hizballah (Party of God).

In Tunis a senior PLO official accused Syria of wanting to chase Palestinians from Lebanon and repeated a rejection of the ceasefire accord reached in Damascus on Thursday.

Salah Khalaf, right-hand man to Mr. 'Arafat in Fatah, told a news conference that Syria was in league with Israel and the Amal militia in an anti-Palestinian plot in Lebanon.

He said Palestinian fighters were ready to withdraw from the strategic hilltop village of Maghdushah in South Lebanon if Amal lifted a 70-day siege of the refugee camp of Rashidiyah near Tyre. A buffer force would then move into the area.

He listed two other conditions for a truce — Palestinians ejected from their homes should be allowed to return and Amal should publicly pledge not to renew attacks on the Palestinian camps.

KUWAIT

Egypt's 'Ubayd Arrives With Mubarak Message

LD301155 Kuwait KUNA in English 1058 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 30 (KUNA) — Egyptian Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Atif Muhammad 'Ubayd arrived here Sunday to deliver a message from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak to H.H. the Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

The Egyptian official was received by Kuwaiti Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rashid and head of the Egyptian interests section in Kuwait Ambassador Dr. Ahmad 'Atiyah al-Masri [name as received].

In an arrival statement, the Egyptian minister told KUNA that the message he is carrying is in response to H.H. the amir of Kuwait's invitation to President Mubarak to attend the fifth Islamic summit scheduled to convene in Kuwait next January.

He pointed out that the message also expresses Egypt's firm stand in leading the national action in the region to support the efforts of "our brothers" to confront future challenges and obstacles.

'Ubayd pointed out the President Mubarak's acceptance to visit Kuwait will have "great impact" on strengthening the conference's efforts and issues of interests to Egypt and the Arabs.

The Egyptian minister said that he looks forward for his meeting with H.H. the crown prince and Preimer Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdullah al-Sabah, Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad and Defense Minister Shaykh Salim al-Sabah.

Kuwaiti Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rashid said 'Ubayd's visit is "a good opportunity particularly that relations between Kuwait and Egypt do not require negotiations because relations between the two countries are deep rooted and we are receiving a dear brother carrying a message from President Husni Mubarak to the amir of Kuwait."

Al-Rashid expressed hope that this visit would be a good step toward strengthening economic cooperation between the two countries and said now "we are in need of more cooperation to curb the aggressors and step up understanding." The Kuwaiti minister expressed hope that Arab gatherings would be useful and would provide as soon as possible an opportunity for clearing Arab atmospheres.

Editorial on Arab Stand After U.S.-Iran 'Deal'

JN281737 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 24 Nov 86 pp 1, 26

[Editorial: "Dirty Hands"]

[Text] The U.S.-Iran arms deal is now a scandal that cannot be covered. Its shame cannot be expunged. It will disgrace all those connected with it with the exception of Israel. The deal is a disaster for the United States because it exposed the false war against terrorism and provided an example of the benefits of terrorism. It showed that terrorism results in billions of dollars worth of arms, in unlimited international support behind the scenes, and in formulating stands toward the war. This deal proves that when the U.S. President speaks of his country's efforts to end the Iraq-Iran war, he not only lies to the world, but also to his aides, to the U.S. Congress, and to the American people. The deal demonstrated that all the hostile states — the United States, Israel, Canada, the FRG, Britain, and other NATO states — are standing by Iran and are busy fueling the Iranian war.

Such political agreement would not have been realized without full agreement on the aims of the war and on the need to prolong it to serve the interests of those behind it from the very beginning. Reagan says it was not necessary to inform Congress of the deal because the deal did not violate the Congress' decision not to export arms to Iran. The U.S. President did not act in a courageous manner and was not able to justify concluding arms deals with Saudi Arabia or Jordan.

The various aspects of the British role in this issue have not been revealed yet, although the British Government announced that the deal, which included giving Iran an air defense network and radar, does not require an export license. Perhaps Mrs Thatcher's government considers the military equipment for Iran tourist products.

In the FRG, Helmut Kohl's government gave the same answer to prove that the NATO alliance is not far from the plot. Exporting gunboats to Iran was regarded as a part of steps to encourage food exports. As for Israel, it does not hide its role in this plot. It continues to explain this role and to demand that the United States shed more light on it.

All of these acts were revealed in the capitals of their perpetrators and were officially revealed on radio and television — something that makes any argument about them out of the question. The accusations leveled against Reagan and his aides by the U.S. Congress, by political and military circles, and by the American people are a means of exposing Reagan's lies and destroying his credibility. These accusations have also tarnished U.S. credibility in the world.

The Arab media and official statements, scarce though they were, plunged into talk about the lack of U.S. credibility as if this is something new. We have been engaged in proving the U.S. deception, which proves that among us there are some who believe the United States could play roles leading to sparing Arab blood, unifying Arab ranks, preserving Arab territory, or protecting their rights. Stupidity is the epidemic of the age, but it seems that pretending to be stupid is more widespread than stupidity itself. It is not true there are some who do not realize the strategic U.S. aims, the deep rooted U.S. hatred of everything that is Arab, except perhaps the Arabs' oil wealth, their money, and their consuming markets. The U.S. hostility toward the Arabs is not a novelty or a sudden occurrence. All Arabs are aware of this fact, but some of them try to escape from it out of fear or apprehension. They try to escape because they want to avoid shouldering their duties with pride because of their lame cultural and political upbringing. Some of them want to have decisionmaking in accordance with outdated considerations. Therefore, the stand taken by some Arabs toward the dirty hands deal, regarding it as a surprise, means they are satisfied with it or participating in it or both. Therefore the issue worthy of investigation and consideration and decision is not the credibility of the United States, Britain, or the FRG — it is a shame to add that of Israel also — but Arabs' credibility in terms of their concepts, values, and destiny, not to mention the much talked about solidarity and dignity. The dangerous issue is the exposure of the lack of Arab credibility and here lies the greatest scandal and danger. What is at issue is defining the trench in which the Arab states are standing, now that the connection between Iran and Israel and the United States are known.

The holy way out of the previous dilemmas and the only purgatory for the Arabs is to announce that they stand by Iraq. Standing by Iran or even remaining neutral means standing by Israel, the United States, Britain and the others who plot against the Arabs. There can be no other explanation for future stands. Iran and the United States have given us an example of a secret alliance that can be hidden by each leveling insults against the other and by speeches and statements. Unless all the Arabs stand by Iraq, we might ask them to reveal secret relations that would also be turned into scandals in their own countries.

Government Backs Moves To End Lebanon Fighting

LD291432 Kuwait KUNA in English 1250 GMT 29 Nov 86

[From Saleh Nazal]

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 29 (KUNA) — Kuwait declared its support to any endeavors directed to end the fighting between Lebanese Amal militia movement and Palestinian fighters.

Fierce battles have been raging in south Lebanon and Beirut around Palestinian refugee camps, and in response to a question on PLO moves to convene an Arab summit to end fighting, Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir told newsmen Kuwait encourages and backs any effort to end fighting between Palestinian and Lebanese brethren.

"We all should make an effort to halt the deterioration in the camps for the sake of protecting the lives of our Palestinian brethren," Shaykh Sabah said.

He appealed to the Lebanese Amal militias to find a way to end the fighting and engage in battle against the common enemy Israel.

He also said efforts should be exerted to restore stability and security to Lebanon together with normal living conditions.

Shaykh Sabah said the U.N. efforts to end the Iraq-Iran war will also be accorded all support from all member states of the Islamic Congress.

He told KUNA in connection with a message sent by U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to the Security Council last night, that the secretary general will be offered a special opportunity — or any one that represents him — to confer with Iraqi and Iranian officials in Kuwait while the Islamic summit is in progress next January to probe ways for an equitable settlement to the conflict and stem the bloodshedding from the sons of the two countries.

Shaykh Sabah expressed satisfaction for the presence of U.N. representatives in Kuwait to mediate ending the Gulf war.

OMAN

Sultan Attends Joint Maneuvers With UK Troops

JN301517 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Excerpts] This morning, Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, supreme commander of the Armed Forces, sponsored the final stage of the attack executed by units from the sultan's Armed Forces and the British Army at Ra's al-Hadd in the country's eastern region. [passage omitted]

The sultan was briefed on the stages of the exercise, and then he watched the final stage of the attack on a number of targets in which units from Oman's Sultan Air Force participated with Jaguars and helicopters. Artillery, armored vehicles, paratroopers, the Oman Coast Battalion, Tornados, Harriers, and other transport and supply aircraft from the two countries also participated in the maneuvers. In addition, the exercises featured a combat formation of armor, artillery, paratrooper, infantry, and engineering troops supported by fighter planes and helicopters. Later, the plan of attacking the target with artillery and tank fire was executed. Then the infantrymen moved to occupy the enemy's mock targets backed by British commandos and Oman's airborne infantry. They managed to occupy the targets after pounding them with aircraft and other support weapons. [passage omitted]

At the end of the attack stage, Sultan Qabus, supreme commander of the Armed Forces, conducted a field inspection of the formations and units involved in the maneuver. The sultan then left the exercise site.

PDRY

Soviet Official Arrives for Solidarity Meetings

EA290058 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0330 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Comrade (Eli Anatoliy), secretary of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Asian and African Countries, arrived in Aden yesterday evening on a visit to our country that will last several days. He has come to participate in the consultative meeting of the Arab and Afro-Asian solidarity committees that will be held in our country on 29 November and to discuss cooperation between the Yemeni Peace Council and the Soviet Solidarity Committee. [passage omitted]

Soviet Geology Minister Visits Gold Mine Project

EA281311 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] At noon today, the Soviet geological delegation led by Comrade Kozlovskiy, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR minister of geology, currently visiting our country, visited the gold exploration and evaluation project in Wadi Madn, in Al-Mukalla Province, Hadramawi Governorate, which is being implemented in cooperation with the Soviet Union.

The delegation was accompanied on its visit by Comrades Salih Abu Bakr ibn Husaynun, member of the YSP Central Committee, deputy prime minister and minister of energy and minerals; Sayf Munassar Muhammad, member of the Central Committee and first secretary of the party committee in the governorate; and Mahmud 'Abdallah 'Arasi, member of the Central Committee and head of the Executive Bureau in the governorate. The Soviet delegation listened to a detailed explanation of the progress being made in the exploration work and the results achieved in opening mines and drilling wells. They heard about the results of various analyses and tests to determine the quantity and quality of the reserves of gold and other minerals and their technological properties by 1988.

Comrade Kozlovskiy praised the efforts being made by the Soviet experts and Yemeni workers and technicians to complete this important project ahead of schedule. He stressed that the Soviet side will help to overcome all the difficulties facing the next stages in implementation of the project.

Meets With 'Ali Salim al-Bid

EA300550 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, received in his office this morning Comrade Yevgeniy Kozlovskiy, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and Soviet geology minister, currently visiting our country. During the meeting, discussions were held on cooperation between the two friendly countries in the field of oil and mineral exploration on the basis of the agreements concluded in this respect. The brother secretary general praised the efforts made by the Soviet experts on oil and mineral prospecting in our country, emphasizing that exploitation of these resources would make a great contribution toward consolidating the efficiency of our country's national economy.

For his part, the Soviet minister expressed satisfaction at the meeting with the brother secretary general. He said that during his visit, he had studied the progress of completed phases in the oil prospecting operation in the PDRY. He pointed out that the Soviet side would increase the efficiency of efforts toward the extraction of oil on the basis of the current cooperation between the two friendly countries.

Brothers Fadl Muhsin 'Abdullah, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee; Salih Abu Bakr ibn Husaynun, member of the Central Committee, deputy prime minister, and minister for energy and minerals; Albert Ivanovich Rachkov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet ambassador in Aden; and the economic counselor of the Soviet Embassy also attended the meeting.

Peace Council Issues Appeal on Camps War

EA280423 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] The Yemeni Council for Peace, Solidarity and Peoples' Friendship has sent an appeal concerning the damaging clashes around the Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut and southern Lebanon to the brothers in the Lebanese nationalist movement and the forces of the Palestinian revolution.

It points out that our Yemeni people are following with deep concern the damaging developments in the Lebanese nationalist arena and the continual bloodshed between the comrades in arms, goals, and destiny. These events arise from the regrettable and damaging war between the combatants of the Amal Movement and groups of the Palestinian revolution around the Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut, Sidon and Sur. Hundreds of people have been killed or wounded in this fighting.

This bloodshed is a gratuitous gift to the enemies of the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples. It has enabled these enemies, headed by Israel, to entrench their influence and control over the resources of Lebanon and to threaten its sovereignty and unity at a time when the forces of Zionist occupation in the south are in a real dilemma from which they cannot disengage themselves. This is because of the mounting commando action by the fighters of the valiant Lebanese nationalist resistance. In view of this, the continuing clashes between the forces of the Palestinian revolution and the Amal Movement are an important factor that can only help the Zionist entity emerge from its dilemma and strengthen its aggressive positions in southern Lebanon.

The appeal stresses that, at a time when the Yemeni Council for Peace, Solidarity and People's friendship is drawing attention to these dangers and provocations against the brotherly Lebanese and Palestinian peoples and the achivements of their national patriotic struggle, the duty dictated by the brotherly, militant relationship between our Yemeni people and the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples compels it to ask the parties concerned to halt this damaging bloodshed and to cease fire immediately. It calls on them to start a constructive, peaceful dialogue and to settle their problems in a brotherly and responsible spirit that takes account of the great dangers being faced by our progressive national struggle. It urges them to abandon death, destruction and the use of guns against each other and, instead, to level these guns at the hearts of the true enemy of the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples and all our Arab peoples, namely Israel, and to liberate our occupied territories in Palestine and southern Lebanon from its filth.

The Yemeni Council for Peace, Solidarity and People's Friendship directs a sincere appeal to the brothers in the Lebanese nationalist movement to lift the military siege imposed on the Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut and the south so that innocent people, including women, children and the elderly, can obtain food and treatment. This is a humanitarian obligation. It will help in finding peaceful solutions to the minor problems between the different parties and drawing up a political solution that satisfies all concerned.

In directing this appeal to the Lebanese and Palestinian brothers, the Yemeni council expresses the confidence of our Yemeni people -- who will continue loyally to support the national struggle of the two brotherly peoples -- that this appeal will receive a responsible answer from the brothers concerned. It hopes they will enter into prompt and serious negotiations to solve all their differences in a manner that will achieve the necessary conditions for strengthening unity in the joint struggle for steadfastness, as represented by Syria, the Lebanese nationalist movement, and the forces of the Palestinian revolution. Steadfastness is the true guarantee for countering the imperialist and Zionist plots aimed at asserting Zionist-imperialist influence in our Arab region and striking at these steadfast forces. This necessitates the mobilization of all sincere efforts to reinforce the unity of their national liberation struggle and strengthen their steadfastness against the common enemy, by confronting the Zionist enemy and his allies.

The rabid imperialist aggression against Syria and the attempt to impose political, diplomatic and other blockades have been truly reflected in the scale of the imperialist plot against Syria, aimed at making Syria bow to the U.S. capitulationist, conspiratorial designs that seek to deny legitimate Arab rights.

'Ali Nasir Muhammad Supporters Arrested

JN281150 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 26 Nov 86 pp 1, 14

[Text] Aden — Security sources in the PDRY have announced the arrest of a group of supporters of former Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad that planned to blow up some government institutions in the Abyan Governorate. The sources said automatic weapons, as well as explosives hidden in tea pots, were found with the group which infiltrated into the country through the border.

Al-Ittihad has learned from state security sources that the group comprises four members: Khalid 'Abdallah Salim, Salim Ahmad Salih, Nizar Muhammad 'Ali, and Hasan Muhsin Hasan. The group will soon be put on trial. The sources said the group of saboteurs is the second such group to be arrested.

State security sources also told *Al-Ittihad* that members of the first group were arrested in Shabwah last month. They had infiltrated into the country with a group of citizens returning home several months after the general amnesty was issued.

QATAR

Amir Receives Message From PLO's 'Arafat

NC291126 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Qatari Amir Shaykh Khalifah Ibn Hamad Al Thani has received a written message from PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. It deals with regional developments and the attacks on Palestinian camps in Southern Lebanon.

The note was delivered by Yasin al-Sharif, the PLO's representative in Doha, during an audience with the amir at his office in Al-Dawhah Palace at 1100 today. Yasin al-Sharif also passed along 'Arafat's greeting to the amir and his appreciation of Qatar's support for the Palestinian cause.

SAUDI ARABIA

Spokesman Denies Saudi Role in U.S.-Iran 'Deal'

LD291852 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1809 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Riyadh, 29 Nov (SPA) — Commenting on the AP report, citing *The Times* of London, filed this morning, 29 November, which says Saudi Arabia played a role in opening the negotiations between Washington and Tehran concerning an Iranian-U.S. deal, a spokesman said Saudi Arabia has previously declared its firm denial of the rumors of some media services about Saudi Arabia's prior knowledge of this deal.

He added that such reports are ridiculous, because how could any country in the world know the secrets of this deal while some official quarters of the U.S. Administration and the Iranian authorities deny prior knowledge of its secrets until their official revelation through the media?

This clarification is made for the reader.

UAE

Iran's Lavasani Reiterates Stand to UAE Officials

LD300827 Tehran IRNA in English 0810 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 30, IRNA — The Islamic Republic of Iran's Foreign Ministry official Hoseyn Lavasani Saturday reiterated that the Iraqi ruler Saddam Hussayn's downfall was still Iran's main condition for ending the war imposed on Iran six years ago. He also said that peace and tranquility would return to the region only after Saddam's fall.

Speaking in a meeting with Deputy Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates, Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad al-Nuhayyan, in Abu Dhabi, Lavasani stressed that Iran did not covet even an inch of the Iraqi territory.

Lavasani, who is the director general of the Afro-Arab Affairs Department, also said that since the beginning Saddam has been trying to involve other Persian Gulf states in the imposed war. To this end, Lavasani said, he has attacked economic and oil centers in Kuwait and United Arab Emirates several times.

He also cited the Iraqi attack on the aircraft carrying the late Algerian Foreign Minister Bin Yahya which led to his death, chasing the plane carrying the Kuwaiti amir's envoy to Iran, threatening civil aviation in Iran, and its recent two attacks on Abu al-Bakush oil platform in Abu Dhabi, as an open breach of law by the Baghdad regime. The Foreign Ministry official regretted that the regional countries had not shown any reaction so far to these inhuman acts of the Iraqi regime.

Stressing friendly relations between Iran and the U.A.E., Shaykh Hamdan hoped for their expansion.

Lavasani also announced Iran's support for the U.A.E. and other regional states against Iraqi threats. He stressed that overall cooperation among Persian Gulf countries was a must for peace and political stability in the region.

Meanwhile, Lavasani conferred with U.A.E. Defence Minister Shaykh Mohammad ibn Rashid al-Maktum Saturday. Lavasani talked with Al-Maktum on the aid certain countries in the region extended to the Iraqi regime. In response, the UAE defence minister emphasized the continued friendship between the two countries.

Lavasani is currently on a tour of the regional countries at the head of a delegation.

Better Relations With Iran

LD301617 Tehran IRNA in English 1435 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Nov. 30, IRNA — Ruler of Sharjah and member of the Supreme Council of Rulers of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Shaykh Sultan ibn Mohammad al-Qasimi emphasized on the need to increase Iran-UAE political contacts, here Sunday.

The Sharjah ruler made the remark in a meeting with visiting director-general of the Afro-Arab Department of Iran's Foreign Ministry Hoseyn Lavasani. He also expressed deep regret over the bombing of Abu al-Bakush offshore oil platform.

In response, Lavasani said that the Iraqi regime by having raided the Abu Dhabi oil platform proved to be the sole cause of tension in the region. He added, "The Persian Gulf will experience peace and tranquility when Saddam Husayn's Ba'thist regime is eliminated."

Lavasani also underlined the importance of further expanding relations between the Islamic Republic and the United Arab Emirates.

Minister Receives French Ambassador, Message

JN301252 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1140 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 30 Nov (WAKH) — Rashid al-'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, has received a message from French Foreign Affairs Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond on current developments in the region and issues of common interest to both countries.

Charles Crettian, French ambassador to the UAE, conveyed the message when he was received by Rashid al-'Abdallah in Abu Dhabi today.

Editorial on Respect for Territorial Integrity

JN281139 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 26 Nov 86 p 1

[Untitled editorial]

[Text] From the first day of its establishment, the UAE has categorically declared its respect for the safety, independence, and territorial integrity of all countries, especially neighboring countries. It has also declared its rejection of any attempt to undermine its territorial integrity and national independence. The UAE has announced its principles stem from the Islamic shari'ah and support all efforts to extinguish the fires of regional and world conflict.

Ever since the outbreak of the war between Iraq and Iran, the UAE has not spared any effort to end that destructive war, both by acting on its own and by cooperating and coordinating with fraternal Arab and Muslim states. The UAE declared its intentions, sympathetic to the two Muslim peoples, to seek to end the drain on men and materiel of the two warring Muslim states.

Regrettably, we are surprised now to find that the response to those good intentions, efforts, and clear stands was to hit our interests and to threaten the safety and security of our territory.

UAE leaders and officials have consistently warned of the consequences of any irresponsible action aimed at expanding the war. They called for containing the fire as a prelude to extinguishing it and urged all parties to deprive any foreign power of a pretext to intervene in the region. However, the flames of the war have burned neutral countries seeking to establish peace and to help the two belligerents resolve their conflict through negotiation and fraternal dialogue which our tolerant religion advocates.

The UAE, which respects the safety and territorial integrity of other states, equally rejects any attempt to commit aggression against its territory and interests and urges all parties to respect its reght to do so.

Oilfield Attack 'Invitation' for Intervention

JN281324 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 26 Nov 86 p 1

[Editorial: "Inadmissable Conduct"]

[Text] From the beginning of the Iraq-Iran war, the UAE stand was crystal clear: We have strong and firm ties with both warring parties, ties not subject to bargaining.

Hence the firm stand taken by the UAE, namely to strive with all means and to support all good endeavors to end a destructive war that would only weaken the ability of the Muslim world to resist the dangers threatening all Muslim countries; a war which benefits only arms merchants and enemies lying in wait for both Iraq and Iran as well as the entire Muslim world.

Just as the UAE continues to uphold its peaceful policy and is determined to continue its efforts to end the fighting without any bias, the UAE also affirms that it cannot accept that the reward for its calls for peace should be aggression against its property and territory and the killing of innocent people who enjoy its protection — as in the case of yesterday's attack on oil installations in the Abu al-Bukush oilfield. It is our right to warn those who committed such an aggression that we will take all measures to prevent its recurrence. Such aggression will not prevent us from continuing our efforts to stop the futile fighting between the two Muslim countries.

We have been warning since its outbreak that the war poses the threat of opening the way for foreign intervention in the Gulf. We fear the deliberate expansion of the war and the attempt to involve other parties in the war is an open invitation for such unwanted intervention. Let this aggression be the last mistake and let it be an incentive to intensify efforts to end the war.

Fraternal countries have been told of the details of the attack. These countries are expected to take a practical — and predetermined — stand on any aggression which may occur, for that is the most elementary rule of solidarity in the face of a threat which does not exclude anyone.

YAR

President Cables PDRY President on National Day

JN301031 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, has sent a congratulatory cable to his brother Eng Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, Politburo member and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium in our southern part of the homeland, on the 19th anniversary of the independence of the southern part of the homeland.

The cable reads: It pleases me to send you and through you to our brothers in the southern part of the homeland, my sincerest congratuations on the occasion of the Yemeni people's celebration of Independence Day of the southern part of the homeland. Our Yemeni people who are celebrating this dear occasion are reaping the fruits of the great sacrifices they made for the sake of wrenching the freedom of the southern part from the claws of the hated colonialism and achieving their dearest aspirations. On this occasion, we reiterate our continued determination to achieve our Yemeni people's most sublime aspiration, which is the reunification of their land and people. I wish you continued good health and happiness and our unity efforts success and progress.

Mubarak Discusses Defense Pact, Peace Conference

NC301429 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1250 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 30 Nov (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has called on all Arab countries to commit themselves to the Joint Arab Defense Pact. He asserted Egypt's Arab commitment in this respect. The president said: We have been accused of a lack of commitment to this pact. I am calling on them to pledge themselves to it. Egypt will not shirk its Arab obligations.

President Mubarak was responding to reporters' questions today on the extent of Egypt's commitment to the Joint Arab Defense pact, in the event that Iran carries out its threats to the Gulf countries.

Answering another question on the Iranian president's threats to Gulf countries assisting Iraq, Mubarak said: There are many threats, and anyone can bandy them about. This, he added, can only lead to calamity.

In his remarks, President Mubarak called for a halt to the ongoing war in Lebanon, describing it as a catastrophe for Lebanon and the entire Arab nation. He said that it is making current problems even more difficult. It is complicating the settlement of the Palestinian issue and exhausting the Arab countries' resources, he added. The president affirmed that it is not in the interest of Lebanon or its neighboring countries to continue this dreadful fighting, which can only lead to the total depletion of the country's resources and a halt to its development.

In his observations at the conclusion of his audiences at the Al-Qubbah Presidential Palace today, President Mubarak said that he hoped an international peace conference would be held, as it would resolve numerous problems in the region. Asked about the outcome of the visit to the United States by Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, the president stated: I instructed Marshal Abu Ghazalah to undertake this trip to discuss the issue of military debts. He added that the talks had been positive and that he expected a good outcome soon.

The president stated: I have received U.S. President Ronald Reagan's reply to my message, which was conveyed by Marshal Abu Ghazalah, but I am waiting for something in writing before I say anything about it.

President Mubarak was questioned about the contents of the message that Dr 'Atif 'Ubayd, minister for cabinet affairs and minister of state for administrative development, will deliver to the ruler of Kuwait during his visit which began today, and about Egypt's view of the Islamic summit conference. He replied: We are still discussing the issue of the Islamic conference with a view to ensuring that it is successful and can produce positive results. He said that he had given Dr 'Atif 'Ubayd a personal message for the amir of Kuwait.

In his statements, the president declared that he would welcome a visit by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to Egypt at any time. He said: Mr 'Arafat does not need an invitation from me. He can come here whenever he likes and I will welcome him to Egypt at any time.

President Mubarak was asked about his opinion regarding King Husayn's statement that the parties should go directly to an international conference, without any preparatory committee. He said that the question of a preparatory committee, or a committee to work out the details of an international confernece, is under discussion. There are some reservations about a preparatory conference, he said, and added that the discussions could produce good results. What matters is for the conference to be held, whether this is as a result of a preparatory committee or as a result of consultations and agreement among the states concerned. The important thing is to sit down at the negotiating table to find a solution for the chronic Palestinian issue.

Asked whether the situation regarding the peace issue has changed following the Alexandria meeting between President Mubarak and the Israeli prime minister, President Mubarak said: We are going ahead with the peace process. Shim'on Peres expressed the Israeli Government's opinion and not his own when he agreed to an international conference. He added: Peres was speaking for the Israeli Government when he talked about the conference. We consider the agreement to be a commitment on the part of Israel, despite some reservations expressed here and there.

Asked whether Egypt and Israel are in touch about this matter, President Mubarak said: Consultations are continuing between us and Israel and with all the parties concerned in the issue.

Responding to another question about the Israeli UN representative's rejection of an international conference, President Mubarak said: Let him say what he likes. I discussed this matter with the Israeli Government.

Mubarak Greets UN on Palestinian Solidarity Day

NC011041 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has declared that now is the time to intensify sincere efforts to break the vicious cycle of the Middle East dispute. The international community and the parties directly concerned must exert efforts to make 1987 the year of negotiations to achieve peace based on justice and the restoration of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights through the collective and responsible efforts of the United Nations, with the Security Council's permanent member-states playing a leading role. This can be achieved through the careful preparation of an international peace conference in the Middle East, to be attended by the PLO as an equal participant, directly concerned with the peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute.

This was stated in President Mubarak's message to the United Nations today on the occasion of the international day of solidarity with the Palestinian people. The message was read by Dr 'Abd al-Halim Badawi, Egypt's permanent UN representative, on President Mubarak's behalf during a ceremony marking this occasion at UN Headquarters in New York.

'Abd al-Majid, PLO Official Mark Solidarity Day

NC300610 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
2100 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, said that the Palestinian issue remains the focal point of Egypt's strategy, as well as of its diplomatic efforts on both a regional and international level. This statement came in a speech Ambassador Wafa' Hijazi, the assistant foreign minister, read tonight at a meeting of the People's Assembly Committees on Arab and International Affairs and National Security, held to mark the international day of solidarity with the Palestinian people.

In his speech, Dr 'Abd al-Majid affirmed Egypt's belief that a comprehensive and lasting Middle East peace requires a solution to the Palestinian problem in all its aspects. Egypt, he stated, is making constant and intensive efforts through regional and international contacts to provide an atmosphere conducive to peace. Egypt has been holding consultations to create a climate that would support convening an international conference on Middle East peace as soon as possible.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid also voiced Egypt's denunciation and condemnation of the criminal practices to which the Palestinian people are subjected in the West Bank and Jerusalem.

Addressing the same meeting, Nabil Sha'ath, political adviser to PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, reported that the Israeli military command had established an operations room in northern Israel to monitor the camps war. Sha'ath referred to several regional and international developments of concern to the Palestinian problem: namely, Israel's nuclear buildup, the U.S. supply of arms to Iran via Israel, and Israel's building of settlements and the consequent displacement of Arabs living in the occupied territories. He affirmed that such developments will not intimidate the Palestinian people, adding that the armed struggle will not cease until Palestinian land is liberated.

Yasir 'Arafat's adviser emphasized that the PLO is still holding up an olive branch along with the rifle. It remains committed to the Cairo declaration [in which Yasir 'Arafat denounced terrorism]. Sha'ath said that the PLO will not go back on the Arab and international agreements that pertain to peace. He praised international legitimacy, calling for its translation into resolutions and measures that do not contradict the Palestinians' right to self-determination.

Sha'ath affirmed that PLO relations with the various Arab parties are strategic ties. The PLO is not considering either freezing or abrogating them, but is instead working for their consolidation and improvement.

Ghali Expresses Support for Palestinians

NC290708 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
0500 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] The Arab Republic of Egypt is celebrating the international day of solidarity with the Palestinian people today. To mark the occasion, Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, made a statement emphasizing that a lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East will bring security and stability to its peoples. However, this is impossible without a just settlement of the Palestinian issue that restores the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights, including that of self-determination.

Ghali declared that Egypt, which has spared no effort to support the Palestinian cause, will continue its work to bring about a fair and all-embracing solution to the Middle East crisis and the Palestinian question. He noted that Israel's ongoing occupation of Arab territories in the West Bank, Gaza, and the Golan, as well as its insistence on a policy of annexing land by force, constitutes a violation of the UN's charter and resolutions. It also serves as an obstacle to stability in the Middle East. He urged Israel to end its occupation of Arab territories, including Arab Jerusalem, to renounce its policy of expansion and settlement, and to abandon its repressive measures against civilians.

In conclusion, Dr Ghali appealed to Israel to take steps that would foster trust and create a climate appropriate for an international peace conference attended by all parties concerned, including the PLO.

Ghali Interviewed on Lome Conference Topics

JN290909 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 26 Nov 86 p 4

[Interview with Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, by unidentified reporter in Cairo — date not given]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] You recently attended the French-African summit conference in Lome, the capital of Togo. Can you shed light on the background of this conference and the difference between this conference and other Francophone summit conferences?

[Ghali] The Lome summit conference, which convened 13-15 November, was the 13th conference in the series of French-African summit conferences. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Reports mentioned that the Chadian issue was discussed in detail at the conference, particularly in light of the recent Libyan forces' attacks on northern areas of Chad. What was the upshot of these discussions?

[Ghali] It is only natural to give such attention to the Chadian problem, whether on the level of heads of state and governments or heads of delegations that particiapted in the conference during the deliberations or during bilateral meetings held on the fringes of the conference. However, we cannot say that most of the conference was devoted to the discussion of the problem because all the conferees, without exception, were in agreement on the need to support President Hissein Habre and his legitimate regime in Chad against all Libyan attempts to harm Chad's independence and sovereignty. They also condemned Al-Qadhdhafi's hostile actions and his recurrent aggressions against civilians in the villages of northern Chad, and they called on Libya to end its occuaption and withdraw its forces from Chad.

[Reporter] What about Egypt's stand?

[Ghali] Egypt has always had a principled and explicit stand on the Chadian problem in line with the principles contained in the UN and OAU Charters and their resolutions on this subject. Egypt has always supported the legitimate regime in Chad, the attainment of national reconciliation, and the principle of non-interference in the domestic affairs of other countries. Egypt also supports the territorial integrity of Chad and views the forcible occupation of its territory as illegal. I held a lengthy meeting with Chadian president Hissein Habre on the fringes of the Lome conference and he briefed me on the recent developments in his country and on his persistent attempts to seek a peaceful solution to the problem in the context of the OAU resolutions. However, these attempts did not succeed in view of Al-Qadhdhafi's stand and his insistence on continuing to occupy a third of the Chadian territory, not to mention his recurrent aggressions against the Chadian people in the north and the massacres and mass extermination of the people in these areas.

I delivered a message to President Habre from President Mubarak reiterating Egypt's support for and solidarity with the Chadian people and for their efforts to safeguard their independence and sovereignty and attain national unity in the context of the legitimacy represented by President Habre's regime. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Were there any other political topics on the agenda of the conference?

[Ghali] One of the most important characteristics of the conference was that its agenda was not fixed. Any topic the conferees belived should be discussed in view of its importance was listed on the agenda. Besides the Chadian problem and South Africa, there were deliberations on several other political topics, chief among which was the problem of international terrorism. The conferees highlighted the gravity of this phenomenon and the perils it poses to the African Continent's security and stability. The conferees emphasized the need to confront it through decisive measures and specific steps. The conferees also pointed a finger of accusation at the countries that stand behind these operations — there being no need to name them — and called for exposing them and their schemes to undermine the security and stability of other countries. [passage omitted]

Mubarak Receives Ecuadoran Foreign Minister

NC301019 Cairo MENA in English 1000 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, Nov 30 (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak received this morning the foreign minister of Ecuador, Edgar Teran, who is visiting Cairo.

The meeting was attended by State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr. Butrus Ghali and Ecuador's ambassador.

Edgar Teran had arrived in Cairo on Wednesday on a few days' visit.

Communique Issued on Visit

NC301907 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1545 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 30 Nov (MENA) — Egypt and Ecuador have emphasized the need to hold an international conference on peace in the Middle East that would be attended by all the parties concerned in order to open the way to a comprehensive and just solution for the region. Such a solution would ensure the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination and the establishment of their own state.

In a joint communique issued at the conclusion of the visit to Egypt by Edgar Teran, Ecuadoran minister for foreign affairs, the two states called for an end to all forms of violence in Lebanon. This is needed in order to create the necessary conditions for Lebanon to exercise its sovereignty, political independence, and territorial integrity in accordance with UN resolutions.

The two states also expressed their extreme concern at the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war. They appealed to the two sides to cease hostilities and to begin negotiations to achieve a peaceful solution to their conflict.

In the joint communique, Egypt and Ecuador affirmed their support for the efforts of the Contadora group and all other organizations to find a peaceful settlement for the region's conflict in accordance with international law. The two states strongly condemned the policy of apartheid and stressed the need to increase international efforts to eradicate this policy in all its forms. The two states also expressed their full support for the Namibian people's right to independence. In this regard, they called for a speedy and unconditional implementation of the UN General Assembly's Resolution 435.

The two states affirmed their countries' adherence to the UN Charter and the principles of international law, particularly those pertaining to nonintervention in the internal affairs of other countries, the people's right to self-determination, the illegitimacy of occupying territories by force, and the settlement of disputes by peaceful means.

Egypt and Ecuador vehemently condemned international terrorism. Ecuador expressed its support for President Husni Mubarak's initiative calling for the convening of an international conference to discuss the phenomenon of international terrorism.

The two states reiterated their adherence to the principles of the Nonaligned Movement. They agreed to coordinate their efforts to bolster this movement, to enhance the effectiveness of its role in serving world peace and economic development, and to preserve its firmly established principles.

The two states expressed their concern about the continued arms race. They called for further efforts to achieve progress in the area of disarmament. They urged countries to allocate the large part of their budgets now earmarked for arms and other instruments of destruction to development, progress, and construction instead.

Both states agreed to expand the powers of the joint Egyptian-Ecuadoran Committee to include the coordination of stands at international forums, as well as to cover judicial cooperation. They also agreed to convene the committee for its first session as soon as possible.

Dr Edgar Teran expressed his appreciation and gratitude for the friendship and hospitality shown by the Egyptian Government and people. He invited Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, to visit Ecuador, and Dr Ghali accepted the invitation. A date for the visit will be fixed through diplomatic channels.

Following the signing of the joint communique, Dr Ghali said that the talks had yielded an identity of views on various international issues, particularly those pertaining to the settlement of conflicts by peaceful means, [words indistinct] the possibility of achieving economic and social development. They also agreed to bolster the Nonaligned Movement and to work to ensure that its firmly established principles are preserved.

Dr Ghali welcomed the accession of new Latin states to the Nonaligned Movement, saying: Egypt believes that this will enrich and promote this organization.

AL-AHRAM on Reagan Attempt to 'Woo' U.S. People

NC010552 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2300 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 30 Nov (MENA) -- The *Al-Ahram* newspaper says that the mistake committed by the U.S. Administration with regard to secretly smuggling arms to Tehran in the view of the general public is its persistence in courting danger.

The paper notes that this issue has aroused confusion, concern, and even fear for the personal comfort of the average American.

In the commentary appearing in its Monday edition, the paper asserts that this fact has reduced the degree of the American citizen's sympathy. With this mistake, the paper adds, President Reagan is borrowing from his asset of popular support only to waste it in the sand without having a dire need to do so.

According to the paper, President Reagan's current problem is that he has exploited his good popular image and stuck with his foreign policy to the extent that his sentimental advantage is now in jeopardy.

Al-Ahram notes that the U.S. Administration has helped Iraq and Iran simultaneously. It has furnished Iraq with satellite pictures of sensitive Iranian positions so that they may be accurately attacked. It has also furnished Iran with weapons that can reach the heart of Baghdad. Such moves not only risk a continuation of the war, the paper affirms, but also an escalation of the types of weapons used in it and the subsequent involvement of the Soviet Union. There is also the risk of becoming embroiled in another conflict like that of the Vietnamese and Korean wars.

Al-Ahram says that the U.S. Presidency will use all the political tricks at its disposal to ride out the crisis of this secret arms deal to Iran. The U.S. President tried to woo a public which has been shocked at least four or five times since the beginning of this crisis when he said: The subject of Iran should not keep Americans from addressing important economic issues.

The paper adds that Reagan is banking on his economic success in view of the fact that the American people are known to care more for their livelihood than for foreign policy. This is why President Reagan has turned to economic issues in an attempt to woo the sympathy of the people, which he has begun to lose, *Al-Ahram* concludes.

King Hassan II Receives Message From Mubarak

NC281922 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1905 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Rabat, 28 Nov (MENA) — King Hassan I of Morocco received a message from President Husni Mubarak today. Moroccan Foreign Minister Dr Abdellatif Filali received the message during a meeting with Dr Muhammad Munir Zahran, head of the Egyptian Interests Section in Rabat.

Al-Sharif Leaves for Khartoum 30 Nov

NC300755 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0705 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Cairo, 30 Nov (MENA) — Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif left Cairo for Khartoum early this morning on a 3-day official visit at the invitation of Sudanese Information Minister Muhammad Tawfiq.

In a departure statement, Al-Sharif said that he is returning the visit to Egypt of Muhammad al-Hassan 'Abdallah Yasin, member of the Sudanese State Council, who met with Presidnet Husni Mubarak. Al-Sharif described his trip to Sudan as a step toward strengthening brotherly relations between Egypt and Sudan on the political and informational levels.

Al-Sharif said he will hold a meeting this morning with Ahmad al-Mirghani, chairman of the Sudanese State Council, to whom he will deliver a verbal message from his brother Husni Mubarak. The message deals with the situation and problems of the region, as well as with bilateral relations between the two brotherly peoples. [passage omitted]

Economic Protocol Discussed With Soviets

NC291420 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1310 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 29 Nov (MENA) — Economic talks between members of Egyptian and Soviet delegations resumed here today. They discussed the rules governing next year's trade and economic cooperation protocol and the proposed solutions for pending bilateral problems. The ad hoc committee charged with preparing the new protocol examined the most important commodities it covers, and the possibility of increasing the volume of trade it provides for. The new protocol is expected to be signed on Monday. An official source stated that both parties have come up with appropriate formulas for the settlement of certain bilateral difficulties, with emphasis on financial matters.

The Soviet group will leave Cairo on Tuesday after a 1-week visit.

SFRY Official Arrives With Economic Delegation

NC010750 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0620 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Cairo, 1 Dec (MENA) — Dr Radoje Kontic, vice president of the SFRY Montenegro Republic Executive Council, arrived in Cairo early this morning, leading an economic delegation on a 5-day visit to Egypt.

In an arrival statement, Dr Kontic said he would hold talks with Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning, on means of promoting bilateral relations and expanding the volume of trade and industrial exchange between the two countries. He added that the delegation's members would also meet with the ministers of economy and electricity to discuss a number of joint ventures and ways to overcome the difficulties faced in implementing these projects. The Yugoslav official added that the Egyptian-SFRY joint committee meets periodically to intensify all fields of cooperation. He pointed out that a cooperation protocol between the two countries in the fields of economy, agriculture, industry, and electricity would be signed with Dr Kamal al-Janzuri on Thursday.

Sidqi Announces Cabinet Committee Heads

NC292105 Cairo MENA in English 2010 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, Nov 29 (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi today issued a decision on forming the cabinet ministerial committees, namely the Higher Committee on Policies and Economic and Financial Affairs under Dr Sidki, the Production and Production Services Committee under Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning, the Social Services Committee under Dr 'Amal 'Uthman, minister of social affairs, and the Legislative Committee under Counsellor Mamduh 'Attiyah, minister of justice.

Proposed Budget Cuts Behind Cabinet Dismissal

PM011029 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 19 Nov 86 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Sultan Abu 'Ali's Report Brought Down the Cabinet"]

[Text] Highly placed government sources have confirmed that the direct cause of the dismissal of Dr 'Ali Lutfi's cabinet and the exclusion of [former Economy and Foreign Trade Minister] Sultan Abu 'Ali from the new cabinet was a report submitted by Sultan Abu 'Ali. In that report Abu 'Ali made proposals for reducing the deficit in the state's general budget in response to the IMF's demands. The report proposed a 50-percent cut in armed forces allocations and a 25-percent cut in presidential office allocations.

Dr 'Ali Lutfi approved Sultan Abu 'Ali's proposals, submitted them to the presidency, and was promptly dismissed.

AL-AHALI Chief Editor on Constitutional Changes

JN291145 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 29 Nov 86 p 22

[Interview with Husayn 'Abd al-Raziq, chief editor of the Cairo weekly *Al-Ahali* and member of the General Secretariat of the National Progressive Unionist Grouping Party, by Muhammad 'Ali 'Ismat in Cairo — date not given]

[Excerpts] ['Ismat] Various opposition groups, probably most of all the Al-Wafd Party, have recently intensified their calls for amendements to certain articles of Egypt's constitution. How far would the grouping go along with amending the constitution?

['Abd al-Raziq] The present constitution has many advantages and disadvantages. On the whole, two trends have emerged regarding changing or amending the constituion. The first would have certain articles of the constitution amended, a position we have long held. For instance, we have called for striking out provisions giving the president the right to take certain measures and called for putting them to a referendum, and for correcting other provisions that are considered drawbacks in the constitution. The second trend would have the constitution scrapped altogether, and a new constituent body formed to draft a new one. Frankly speaking, we are absolutely opposed to this call. This is because, given the existing political balance and electoral system, taking the second option would eventually empty the present constitution of all its advantages, specifically the society's assets, which have safeguarded whatever has remained of the progressive social advances made during the 'Abd al-Nasir era, like free education and public sector control of Egyptian economy. [passage omitted]

['Ismat] How do you explain the ongoing grinding press battles between the NDP and Al-Wafd Party?

['Abd al-Raziq] The question is very simple. Very briefly, the Al-Wafd Party sees itself as a substitute for the NDP on the social level. The social forces supporting the NDP may give more support to Al-Wafd because, being out of office and without authority, Al-Wafd is not held responsible for the blunders of corruption. Hence, Al-Wafd is working to be an immediate rather than a future substitute for the NDP, which alarms the ruling NDP. This is because Al-Wafd is competing with the NDP on a common level without making the mistakes every ruling party does. Add to that the mistakes the NDP has committed. The battle between the two sides intensified, especially after the NDP was surprised that the Al-Wafd Party, which had long taken care to distinguish between the institution of the presidency and the NDP, suddenly put the two in one basket and proposed a constituent body to change the constitution. The NDP then stupidly engaged in an uncalled-for battle with Al-Wafd. Had the NDP waited a little, statements by the Al-Wafdists about the constituent body would have died a natural death.

['Ismat] Relations between the presidency in Egypt and the grouping have of late been chilly, and there are signs of hostility between the two sides. What do you have to say about that?

['Abd al-Raziq] It has to be made clear that President Mubarak is both president of the republic and head of the NDP. We have always maintained a dialogue with him as president of the republic and will continue to do so, both when we agree and disagree. We cannot just turn our backs on the state machinery. As a political party, we are entitled to seek power. We engage those in office in dialogue on matters on which we may agree or disagree, a position we have held and adhered to since 1981. With regard to President Mubarak as head of the NDP, we are against him in every respect because we completely reject the NDP policies. Let me point out, however, that we gave President Mubarak a chance in his first years in office to ease himself out of the burdensome legacy he had been bequeathed by President Al-Sadat. Now 5 years after he came to office, we have every right to call President Mubarak to account on everything. President Mubarak is now the decision maker and is no longer constrained by anything from the al-Sadat legacy.

['Ismat] All the same, Mr 'Abd al-Raziq, President Mubarak has said that he will not make any illegal or unconstitutional decision against any party, which means that he will refrain from taking the kind of nervous and hostile measures President al-Sadat used to take against you and opposition groups. What do you think?

['Abd al-Raziq] I take this to be a blatant threat. When the president says he will not take any actions gainst us outside the provisions of the law and the constitution, he is, in effect, threatening us with arrest, party disbandment, and so forth. Some of the laws governing political life in Egypt are derived from Mussolini's fascism, and others are in obvious violation of the constitution. I would like to point out that President al-Sadat invoked the law in dealing with his opponents, and it is a matter of deep regret that these laws are still in force.

Islamic Groups Win University Elections

JN291026 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 25 Nov 86 p 27

[Text] Cairo — *Al-Anba'* — The Islamic groups have won the student union elections at Cairo, Alexandria, and Al-Minya Universities despite the protest demonstrations by students at Cairo and Al-Zaqaziq Universities. The Islamic groups won all the union seats in the faculties of medicine at the three universities, in addition to the faculties of communications, politics, economy, engineering, physiotherapy, law, science, and antiquities at Cairo University.

Saddam Husayn Congratulates SFRY President

JN290929 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0915 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Baghdad, 29 Nov (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has congratulated SFRY President Sinan Hasani on his country's national day. The congratulatory cable, which the president sent today on this occasion, says:

It is a great pleasure to send to your excellency, on behalf of Iraq and in my own name, our heartfelt congratulations, wishing you good health and happiness, the friendly SFRY people further progress, and the existing relations of friendship and cooperation between our countries continuous growth and development.

'Aziz Sends Messages to ICO, Nonaligned Movement

JN301122 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1010 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Nov (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has sent messages to the ICO secretary general and to the foreign minister of Zimbabwe, who is the present chairman of the Nonaligned Movement. The messages explain the Zionist entity's official statements, which confirm the arms cooperation between the Zionist entity and the Iranian regime. The two messages explained that what is being revealed about the scandal of Israeli and U.S. arms deals to Iran and the contacts between them confirms the credibility of the Iraqi Government's view. It also gives an official and documented character to a fact that has existed for years, exposes Iranian collusion with Zionism and imperialism, and reveals the Iranian regime's true nature of charlatanism and deception and the false slogans it makes within the ICO and Nonaligned Movement. Tariq 'Aziz called for distributing these messages among the member-states.

Sends Message to Arab League

JN301118 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1005 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Nov (INA) — Iraq has asked the Arab League General Secretariat to consider the official statements of the U.S. Administration and the Zionist entity on arms cooperation between Israel and the Iranian regime as official documents. It also called for keeping them as records at the Arab League and distributing them among the member-states.

This came in a message Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, sent to Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi. He called for adopting appropriate measures to confront the dangers of this cooperation, which has become a fact confirmed by official statements, and to expose its hostile objectives aimed at fragmenting and weakening the Arab nation and preventing it from developing and progressing. Tariq 'Aziz also warned those cooperating with the Iranian regime from continuing this cooperation since insistence on this would mean that they willingly and intentionally support the Zionist-imperialist alliance that is hostile to the Arab nation, after the Iranian regime's ugly face has been exposed.

Awqaf Minister Urges Iran's Expulsion From ICO

JN281336 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Nov (INA) — Iraqi Awqaf Minister 'Abdallah Fadil has called for expelling Iran from the ICO for having an alliance with Zionism, the enemy of Muslims, which is occupying holy Jerusalem and tampering with Islamic sanctities in Palestine and killing and evicting Palestinians.

In a statement to INA today, Fadil demanded that the subject of arms cooperation between the Zionist entity and the Iranian regime be included on the agenda of the Islamic summit conference scheduled to be held in Kuwait on 26 January. He explained that courteousness toward the Khomeyni regime by some Islamic governments, as well as their silence on this regime's charlatanism and violation of Islamic religious principles and teachings and their silence about its resorting to the United States and the Zionist entity to receive arms and equipment to fight a Muslim country and member of the ICO, will encourage this regime to continue its war of aggression.

The Awqaf minister pointed out that Iraq submitted several documents confirming arms cooperation between Tel Aviv and Tehran from the beginning of the war. The documents also affirmed the existence of suspect ties and meetings between Zionist and Iranian officials to consolidate this cooperation. He said the Zionist entity's leaders well realize Iraq is the largest Arab military power threatening their illegitimate presence on Palestinian territory. Hence, he added, they supplied the Tehran rulers with arms and equipment in an attempt to weaken this Arab power on which the Arabs and Muslims pin high hopes to liberate the holy land of Palestine.

Fadil asserted that the dirty arms cooperation operation among the United States, the Zionist entity, and the Iranian regime places leaders, scientists, and men of thought before their historical and religious responsibilities to take a decisive stand against those violating religion and trading with false slogans.

Concluding his statement, Fadil said that Iranian Muslims, ulema, and men of religion, after this exposure of the alliance between the Zionists and the Iranian regime's henchmen, are urged to raise their voices to denounce this immoral cooperation and to expose the charlatans and jugglers.

National Assembly Issues Statement on Arms Deal

JN301643 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1508 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Nov (INA) — The Iraqi National Assembly today called on all Arab and Islamic Parliamentarian councils and bodies, the Nonaligned Movement countries and parliaments, and the international parliamentary bodies to condemn the Iranian-Israeli-U.S. military cooperation in order to achieve the joint objectives epitomized by the struggle of these countries. This came in a statement after the Assembly's session today during which the assembly discussed the officially documented facts regarding the U.S.-Israeli-Iranian contacts involving U.S. arms supplies to the Iranian regime through the Zionist entity which effectively contributed to this issue.

The National Assembly affirmed in its statement that the political scandals which were unveiled represent a very dirty and mean game that should be strongly condemned by all the good, peace-loving forces in the world. It said the United States has repeatedly announced Iran is the aggressor that insists on continuing the war and threatening Iraq's safety and security as well as that of those in the entire region. The United States once said that a decision not to supply Iran with weapons and military equipment was the best way to pressure it and get it to change its intransigent position.

The Assembly added that previous announcements by U.S. officials contradict the recent policies of the U.S. Administration against Iraq and the Arab nation, a fact which shook the credibility of the U.S. at a time when Iraq maintained normal, balanced relations based on mutual respect and joint interests with the United States.

The statement affirms that the National Assembly cannot accept the U.S. Administration's justifications for shipping military equipment to Iran because such shipments will strengthen the Iranian war machine and prolong the aggressive war that the Iranian regime insists on continuing, threatening Iraq's security and safety and that of the region. The statement adds that the Assembly is fully aware of why the U.S. Administration did not refer to the Israeli role when the dirty game and its dimensions were revealed, and why the concerned parties in the United States and the Zionist entity were compelled to reveal Israel's role after the disclosure of the lowly political and ethical plot against Iraq and the Arab nation.

The Assembly added that since the beginning of the Iranian regime's threats and its armed aggression on 4 September, 1980, Iraq has been aware that this regime maintains suspected links to the Zionist enemy and that there is a joint objective against the Arab regime, explaining that this has been proven by the officially documented dirty game endorsed by the announcements and statements made by concerned parties both in the United States and the Zionist entity.

The statement adds that the Iraqi people have never doubted the nature and behavior of the Iranian regime's leaders represented by charlatanism, lies, hypocrisy, and opportunism. And it affirms that the Iraqi people, who have offered great sacrifices in the fateful battle against the reacist Iranian Persian aggression in defense of the safety and security of Iraq and the Arab nation,as well as their values, honor, and cultural heritage, will not be affected by the dirty game in the world policy.

The Assembly also affirmed that the Iraqi people believe that all the good, peace-loving forces in the world, as well as all of the peoples who struggle against imperialism, Zionism, and racism support Iraq in its just battle. At the end, the statement stresses that, in compliance with the principles of struggle for the sake of peace, independence, and liberation, Iraq draws attention to the need to disclose Israeli-Iranian cooperation and its dangers to the region's security and peace.

Armed Forces Command Issues Communiques

Communique No 2,462

JN281746 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 28 Oct 86

[Communique No 2,462 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 28 November 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant forces have continued their combat activities inflicting further losses on the Iranian-Zionist regime. A roundup of our activities for last night and today follows:

1. The enemy tried to push groups of its personnel in an attempt to approach the positions of our units in the VII Army Corps sector, but the bravery and vigilance of our hero fighters prevented the enemy from achieving its evil objectives. These groups were pounded with all types of weapons and the majority of the enemy personnel was destroyed while the rest was forced to flee. Shouts of help were heard among the enemy soldiers. In other areas of the same sector one of our units downed an enemy drone, destroyed a number of infantry positions, and set one vehicle on fire. Blessed be the men of the heroic VII Army Corps.

2. With bravery and high morale, the men of the III Army Corps in the east of the Al-Basrah sector continued to deal blows to the enemy units inflicting on them the following losses: killing 24 enemy soldiers; wounding others; damaging an armored personnel carrier and a large vehicle; setting an ammunition depot on fire; destroying 4 infantry positions; and halting the enemy's engineering works.

3. One of our units in the II Army Corps central sector attacked the enemy positions opposite it; killed and wounded a number of the enemy soldiers; destroyed a number of the firing positions; and returned safely to its positions. In another area in the same sector, 10 enemy personnel were killed, and 1 machine gun, 2 infantry positions, and 1 ammunition dump were destroyed.

4. Six enemy soldiers were killed and others were wounded in the VI Army Corps sector east of Tigris.

5. In the ! Army Corps, northern sector, one enemy vehicle was damaged. One RPG-7 launcher and a quantity of equipment were seized by one of our patrols in the V Army Corps northern sector.

6. The forces of the clique of charlatans ruling in Iran shelled the residential areas in Basra and Al-Qurnah with long-range artillery wounding one civilian and damaging a popular cafe.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 28 November 1986

Communique No 2,463

JN291738 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Communique No 2,463 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 29 November 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The results of the activities of our victorious Armed Forces for last night and today are as follows:

1. To inflict further losses upon the Zionist Khomeynites, units of the valiant III Army Corps selected enemy targets in the east of the Al-Basrah sector and pounded them heavily using artillery, tanks, and mortars, and destroyed a large number of infantry positions and weapons, setting them on fire; killing approximately 30 scoundrels in one of the positions and wounding others; as well as destroying several vehicles in that position. The enemy was seen evacuating casualties.

Our heroic soldiers, in another part of the same sector, attacked an enemy position killing all of its men. The enemy was seen evacuating the dead.

Four infantry positions were destroyed in another part of the same sector, and several scoundrels in these positions were killed. Others fled in retreat while columns of smoke were rising from their positions.

One mortar, one heavy machine gun, and several other infantry positions in several other parts of the same sector were also destroyed, and one vehicle was damaged. God bless the soldiers of the heroic III Army Corps.

2. Our units in the VII Army Corps intensified their concentrated blows on enemy positions facing them using various weapons. They killed seven enemy soldiers, destroyed several infantry positions and an observation post, and set one ammunition dump on fire.

3. Our units in the IV Army Corps reconnoitered an enemy force estimated at 30 Khomeynite aggressors in the east of the Maysan sector facing them, attacked them, and killed or wounded a number of them. The enemy was seen evacuating his casualties.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 29 November 1986

Communique No 2,464

JN301718 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Communique No 2,464 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 30 November 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Last night and today our triumphant forces continued to inflict further losses on the Zionist Iranian regime as follows:

1. Two units from our valiant forces in the II Army Corps central sector, supported by artillery and tank fire, carried out two raids on enemy positions, killing or wounding some enemy soldiers and destroying some infantry positions. The enemy personnel were heard shouting for help. The two units returned safely to base. In other parts of this sector, seven enemy soldiers were killed, four were wounded, and a heavy-caliber machine gun emplacement was destroyed.

2. Our brave units artillery and tanks on the VII Army Corps front opened strong fire at various times against selected enemy targets, inflicting losses on the rascal Khomeyniite troops and equipment and destroying a number of gun emplacements. Elsewhere in this sector, an enemy soldier was killed and a machine gun emplacement was destroyed with its men.

3. One vehicle was destroyed and another was damaged in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah.

4. The vicious enemy shelled residential areas in Al-'Uzayr and Khurmal with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 30 November 1986

2 Ba'thist 'Agents' Reportedly Killed in Baghdad

LD291622 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Nov 86

[text] According to the Central News Unit, the Islamic Amal Organization of Iraq has announced that two agents of the Iraqi regime, Abu Salim and Mahir Jum'ah, known agents of the Ba'thist Party and the intelligence organization of the Iraqi regime, were ambushed in two separate operations by Muslim revolutionaries in Baghdad and Kadhimayn, and were killed.

According to this report, Abu Salim, an intelligence major of the Iraqi regime, was attacked in (Ziyumah) district in Baghdad, and Mahir Jum'ah was attacked during another operation in Shuyukh district in Kadhimayn. Both were killed.

Finance Minister on 1987 General Budget Goals

JN301130 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0750 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Nov (INA) — Iraqi Finance Minister Hisham Hasan Tawfiq has affirmed that the new general budget for 1987 will pay special attention to providing and facilitating all the necessary means to promote and reinforce the fighting capabilities of the Iraqi Armed Forces in order to ensure their readiness to crush any aggressive Iranian attempt.

In a statement to *Al-Jumhuriyah* published today, the minister said that the aforementioned budget also paid special attention to the issue of developing Iraq's economic capabilities and continuing the process of building a developed modern society. It also gave priority to allocating funds for this purpose. The Iraqi minister indicated that next year's budget will provide the necessary requirements for machines, equipment, transport means and vehicles, and buildings and maintenance for them in a scientific method to increase their production and prolong their active lives. He explained that part of the budget also paid attention to securing the requirements for promoting the scientific and technological process in Iraq, subsidizing essntial food prices, and paying attention to health and education.

The minister stressed the need to avoid depending solely on oil resources in funding present expenditure in the budget. He said that, despite the important role of these oil resources in providing the necessary funds for economic development, dependence on a single resource, to such a large extent, threatens the country's economic process and weakens its ability to face crises. He said Iraq adopted all the necessary measures to develop the other productive economic sectors, especially the agricultural and industrial sectors, as well as the mining and mineral extraction sectors, including oil extraction to reduce dependence on oil resources.

Al-Rifa'i Urges Confrontation of Iranian 'Onslaught'

JN301823 Amman Television Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Commenting on the threats which Iran has recently directed to the fraternal countries that are members of the GCC, Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i has stated to the *Jordanian News Agency* that the Jordanian Government considers the recent Iranian threats a new provocative act by Iran against the Arab nation and that any threat to or aggression against a fraternal Arab country is an aggression against the entire Arab nation. The prime minister appealed to the Arab countries to be committed to the collective Arab defense pact. He added that the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, under the leadership of King Husayn, will not hesitate to do its utmost in order to carry out its pan-Arab duty and commitment toward its sisters, the Arab countries, to confront the Iranian onslaught that threatens the security of the Gulf states and the whole Arab entity.

At the end of his statement, the prime minister called for putting an end to the ongoing fighting among brothers in Lebanon. He said the enemies of the Arab nation are the only side that benefits from this fighting.

Richard Armitage Arrives in Amman 29 Nov

JN291635 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Amman — U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard Armitage arrived in Amman today on an official visit to Jordan to last several days during which he will meet a number of senior officials.

Armitage and his delegation were received by Staff General Al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces; the chief of staff; a number of his aides; the Royal Air Force commander; the Jordanian military attache in Washington; the U.S. ambassador in Amman; and a number of the embassy staff.

Army Chief Receives Soviet Military Delegation

JN261435 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Amman — Staff General Al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, received in his office this morning a Soviet military delegation under General (Chanko). The commander in chief met with the delegation in the presence of Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Talib and the Soviet military charge d'affaires in Amman. The delegation arrived in Amman yesterday.

Crown Prince Hasan Returns to Amman 29 Nov

JN292054 Amman Television Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] King Husayn welcomed Crown Prince Hasan and Princess Tharwat when they returned home this evening following visits to Switzerland, Morocco, and the Netherlands. The prime minister, the chief chamberlain, the Armed Forces commander in chief, the chief justice, a number of senior officials, and the Swiss ambassador in Amman also received them.

His highness opened the work of the Islamic-Christian dialogue conference held in Geneva on 17 November. He also participated in delivering the Agha Khan awards for Islamic architecture at a ceremony held in the city of Agadier. Moroccan Crown Prince Muhammad ibn al-Hassan also participated.

In the Netherlands, his highness delivered a speech at the economic and financial administration institute at the Hague on the political economics of integrated development in Europe and the Middle East at the invitation of the institute's club.

King Cables SFRY's Hasani on Independence Day

JN291445 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] King Husayn has sent a cable to SFRY President Sinan Hasani congratulating him in his own name and on behalf of the people and Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan on the SFRY Independence Day. The king also wished his excellency good health and happiness and the friendly SFRY people further progress and prosperity.

Subcommittee Formed To Implement West Bank Plan

JN290848 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
29 Nov 86 pp 1, 17

[By Ahmad Zughaylat]

[Text] Amman — The prime minister has decided to form a subcommittee from the Higher Committee for the Occupied Territory Affairs to implement the occupied territory development program. 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Majali, deputy prime minister and minister of state for Prime Ministry affairs, will chair this subcommittee, and the ministers of occupied territories affairs, industry and trade, planning, and finance, as well as the occupied territories affairs under secretary will act as members.

The subcommittee will be in charge of specifying the projects requiring implementation in the development program sectors and their timetable in accordance with the priorities dictated by the public welfare and in light of the available funds, both loans and grants.

The subcommittee will also be in charge of preparing a comprehensive study on the economic feasibility of projects and will supervise the implementation of the development program through the concerned official and private bodies, follow up the implementation of projects, and specify the channels of contact among the state organs in order to inspect tangible accomplishments and expenditures.

It has been decided to give the subcommittee a chance to seek the help of ministries and official institutions and departments in order to avoid the obstacles that it may encounter in implementing the occupied territory plan.

216,000 Dinars Disbursed to West Bank Sectors

JN010854 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
1 Dec 86 p 1

[Text] Amman — *Sawt Al-Sha'b* — The Council of Ministers has agreed to disburse 216,000 dinars from funds allocated to support the steadfastness of the kinfolk in the West Bank to several sectors there.

50,000 dinars will be disbursed to the Arab medical science colleges in Jerusalem, 45,000 dinars to private schools in Jerusalem, 42,000 dinars to the doctors' union and program for employing doctors, 25,000 dinars to the Jerusalem Awqaf Directorate, 3,000 dinars to the Orthodox Charity Home for the Handicapped, 1,000 dinars to the blacksmiths' union in Nabulus, and 50,000 dinars to the Secondary Industrial School in Jerusalem.

JORDAN TIMES Publishes Draft Budget Figures

JN010753 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
1 Dec 86 p 1

[By Samir Ghawi]

[Text] Amman — Parliament this week will begin debating the 1987 budget, which, for the first time in the history of Jordan, surpasses JD 1 billion.

Approved at a special session the Cabinet held on Saturday, the budget was forwarded on Sunday to Parliament, in accordance with the time limit stipulated by law, for deliberations and approval.

The fiscal 1987 budget envisages total spending at JD 1,018,700,00, up 10 per cent from last year's JD 923.7 million.

Of the projected amount, JD 585,100,00 will be earmarked for recurring expenditures and JD 433,600,000 for capital and developmental spending compared to JD 563.8 million and JD 359.9 million respectively allocated in 1986.

Revenues were estimated to total JD 979,100,000 compared to JD 787.9 million in 1986.

The budget projects local revenues to amount to JD 586,000,000 while anticipating the difference of JD 393,100,000 to come from aid and loans.

For 1986, local revenues were expected to be JD 497.9 million while grants and credits were anticipated at JD 253 million. however, official sources estimated what was actually received as financial aid in 1986 at JD 150 million.

Estimated at JD 39.6 million, the 1987 budget deficit exceeds the 1986 gap by JD 2 million. It is expected that the shortfall will be covered through improved earnings, higher levels of borrowings or aid and a 'positive cost-cutting' surplus.

Capital and developmental expenditures were increased by 18.5 per cent (or JD 171.9 million) over 1986 spending which amounted to JD 261.7 million.

Recurrent spending in the 1987 budget was only raised by 3.8 per cent (or JD 21.3 million).

Following are major allocations that were included in the budget for recurring expenditures:

— JD 180 million to the Civil Service Departments;

— JD 252.5 million to the Armed Forces;

— JD 152.7 million for other expenditures, mainly;

a) JD 3 million to refugee schemes and to bolster steadfastness programmes;

b) JD 4 million to subsidise basic agricultural products;

c) JD 23 million to repay interest on local loans;

e) JD 44.2 million to repay interest on foreign loans;

f) JD 47 million for the Pension Fund and related reimbursements;

g) JD 3.5 million for the Social Security Corporation;

h) JD 9 million for general expenditures;

i) JD 18 million to support public institutions.

The capital and developmental spending was allocated as follows:

— JD 66.1 million to repay maturing loan installments and other foreign obligations.

— JD 34.9 million to repay maturing loan installments and other local obligations.

— JD 25.4 million to invest in various institutions.

— JD 4 million for investment in various companies.

— JD 12 million for loans to various companies.

— JD 10 million to projects in the occupied territories.

— JD 133.4 million to various capital investment projects

Spending by sectors was as follows:

— Public administration (including the Royal Court, Parliament, the Council of Ministers, the Civil Service Commission and the Audit Bureau) was allocated JD 7.9 million.

— Defence, Security and Justice (Including the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Interior, the Passport Department, the Civil Registration Department, the Public Security Department, the Civil Defence Department, the Ministry of Justice and the Islamic Justice Department) was allocated JD 267.6 million. The figure includes both recurrent and capital expenditures.

— Finance administration (including the Ministry of Finance, the Customs Department, the Budget Department, the Income Tax Department, the Land and Survey Department and the Public Purchases Department) was allocated JD 348.7 million. The figure includes also both recurrent and capital spending.

— Economic development (including the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the Ministry of Planing, the Department of Statistics, the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Antiquities, the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, the Natural Resources Authority, the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment, the Ministry of Public Works, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Jordan Valley Authority and others) was allocated JD 229.2 million

— JD 7.6 million for international affairs.

— JD 118.5 million for social services provide by the ministry of occupied Territories and the Ministry of Labour and Social Development.

— JD 13.7 million for cultural and information services. Included in this category are the Ministry of Information, Radio, T.V., and the Press and Publication Department.

— JD 32.9 million for communication and transportation. The Telecommunications Corporation, the Ministry of Transport, the Civil Aviation Authority, the Meteorology Department and the Ministry of Communication were included in this area.

The budget envisages revenue resources from the following:

— JD 55 million from income tax;

— JD 182.5 million from customs;

— JD 32 million from other taxes;

— JD 35 million from licensing fees;

— JD 55 million from other various duties;

— JD 55 million from telephone, mail and telegraph charges;

— JD 30 million from interest and revenues;

— JD 141.5 million from miscellaneous income.

An amount of JD 183 million was anticipated in Arab financial aid, JD 25 million from the United States and JD 41.3 million from refundable loans.

An amount of JD 118.8 million was envisaged from foreign loans, economic and technical help and JD 25 million from local credits.

AL-DUSTUR Ponders Arab Stand on U.S.-Iran Ties

JN301002 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
30 Nov 86 pp 1, 19

[Editorial: "The Developments of the Deal and the Required Response"]

[Text] While developments of the secret U.S. arms deal with Iran continue, turning it into a political scandal that reminds Americans of Watergate and prompts some Israeli Knesset circles to raise questions on the extent of the Israeli role in this dirty game, the Arab states do not seem concerned about the grave danger this deal poses to Iraq and the entire Arab nation.

With the exception of Jordan and Egypt and certain individual Arab voices, the Arabs did not declare their resentment of the new U.S. trickery on the Middle East political stage. Unlike previous occasions, the trickery this time came in favor of Iran, and not Israel.

It might have been possible for those Arabs who are keeping silent and ignoring all the dangers this deal poses to their present and future to continue to turn a blind eye to all the deal's possible repercussions, had not Israel, their direct pan-Arab enemy, turned out to be the key player, and the side which prepared for and followed up the implementation of the deal, and channeled it in accordance with its direct interests.

After the revelation of the Israeli role, which was recently admitted by Yitzhaq Shamir and other senior Israeli officials, the policy of indifference and silence still adopted by various Arab capitals can only be understood as further carelessness toward the pan-Arab fate and higher Arab interets by those whom we assume to be concerned about the nation's present and future.

While calling on all Arabs to voice their opinions not only about the harm the U.S. deal with Iran inflicts on the interests of all Arabs, but also about the role played by Israel throughout all the stages, we are absolutely confident that standing alongside fraternal Iraq has become an important prerequisite. A unified Arab stand is the only means to deter the enemies of this nation from stabbing it in the back and disregarding its interests and sentiments, as well as the indignation and reactions of its people which will not remain passive for ever.

Arab League Official Meets with Al-Jumayyil

NC281837 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Hammadi al-Sid, director of the Arab League office in Paris, arrived in Beirut at noon today as an envoy of Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi. He is on a fact-finding mission in Lebanon and will also make preparations for a visit to Lebanon by the Arab League secretary general and the Algerian foreign minister. President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil received Al-Sid, who gave him a message from Klibi regarding the nature of the mission.

In a statement following the meeting, Al-Sid said: I have come to Lebanon on the instructions of the Arab League secretary general to hold consultations with Lebanese officials to ascertain the real situation in the area, in light of recent developments and to discuss with them the means of assisting Lebanon, particularly in the economic field. He said the discussions with President al-Jumayyil dealt with the nature of the Arab League secretary general's efforts to achieve Arab solidarity, which is essential in view of the hostile acts the Arab nation is facing. He went on to say he had conveyed Klibi's support for every effort to achieve national accord in Lebanon.

Asked about the date of the Arab League secretary general's visit to Lebanon, Al-Sid said that Klibi is holding consultations preparatory to visiting Lebanon as part of his efforts in the Arab arena.

Karami, Al-Sid Discuss Aid

NC301614 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami received Hammad al-Sid, the Arab League secretary general's envoy, in Tripoli this morning. This meeting falls within the framework of the contacts which Al-Sid is holding with Lebanese leaders.

After the meeting, Prime Minister Karami said the discussions had focused on the general Arab situation, as well as the efforts and continuous work that the Arab League is required to undertake to unify ranks and restore Arab solidarity. As Lebanese, he stated, we must find the common denominators to unify our people. Arab economic assistance is needed now, he added.

Al-Sid noted that the Arab League is trying its best, within the context of available resources, to help solve Lebanon's problems. He explained that his discussion with Prime Minister Karami had dealt with the possible payment of Arab aid promised to Lebanon. He said he will try to do something with regard to this aid upon his return to Tunis.

Iranian Minister, Clerics Discuss End to War

NC290641 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Mr Shaykh ol-Elsam, our country's deputy foreign minister for political affairs, currently visiting Lebanon, met in Beirut yesterday with Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din, deputy chairman of Lebanon's Higher Shi'ite Islamic Council. During the meeting, he expressed his desire to see an end to the fighting among the warring parties in Lebanon. Mr Shaykh ol-Eslam also exchanged views with Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah.

Israeli Gunboats Off Coast Come Under Fire

NC290545 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Israeli gunboats sailing off the Lebanese coast near Al-Ramlah al-Bayda' came under fire shortly before midnight last night.

Iraqi Embassy Denounces Amal Statement

NC281202 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] The Iraqi Embassy in Lebanon has denounced an Amal statement claiming that the embassy received Palestinian fighters, who Amal alleged arrived in Lebanon via the port of Juniyah. The Iraqi Embassy regards the statement as a flagrant attempt to mislead the public and to draw attention away from the state of confusion suffered by the parties involved in the war of liquidation against the Palestinians. The embassy also said this is part of the unrelenting campaign against Iraq and its revolution.

The embassy also affirms Iraq is eager to end this fighting, which serves only the interests of the Zionist enemy. Iraq supports the national issue of Lebanon, including the liberation of its land and the unification of its people.

Amal Notes Palestinian Military Preparations

NC291453 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Statement by the Amal Movement Central Military Bureau's Fifth Branch issued on 29 November]

[Text] According to monitored communications of the joint Palestinian command of Fatah, the DFLP, and the PFLP in Mar Ilyas camp, Palestinian groups in the camp have been instructed to begin preparations to further aggravate the security situation. The command has also requested these groups to take control of high-rise Lebanese buildings around the camp at the zero hour [not further specified] and to spread in the direction of the Soviet Embassy.

The Mar Ilyas camp command has been directing Palestinian artillery emplacements on the mountain and pinpointing the targets to be shelled in the southern suburb.

It has been learned that the Palestinians are planning to occupy the Al-Damur-Khaldah road. Armed Palestinian groups belonging to Ahmad Jibril [PFLP-GC leader] will launch an attack on this road.

The joint Palestinian command in Sidon has instructed the personnel manning its mobile roadblocks from the Sayniq bridge to the Al-Awwali bridge to closely monitor the situation and to detain and question the residents of southern Lebanon who pass along this road.

Contrary to this information, a statement issued by the command of the Nasirite Popular Organization in Sidon claims the roadblocks along the Sayniq road are manned by its own armed men and by Palestinians. This particularly holds true at the Sayniq and Al-Awwali Bridges.

Amal Destroys Liberation Army Headquarters

NC291240 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1147 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] We have just received the following from the Amal Movement Central Military Bureau's Fifth Section: After the armed Palestinian gangs went to great excess in their acts of aggression against Lebanese areas around Shatila, which followed numerous attempts to infiltrate and fan out beyond the camp to deploy snipers, and in the wake of repeated warnings to these gangs from the Amal Movement, special Amal units brought these Palestinians under siege this morning. They did so as the Palestinians tried to slip out of the sector surrounding the central headquarters of the pro-'Arafat DFLP and the building housing the headquarters of the Palestinian Liberation Army, which also belongs to the 'Arafat gangs. These groups were collared inside their centers and exterminated. The Liberation Army building and the structures around DFLP Headquarters were destroyed. Members of Amal are now sweeping the two areas and removing the remains of the bunkers which the movement's special teams had blown up. The Liberation Army's Headquarters had been one of 'Arafat's vital strongholds and was central to the defense of Palestinian military dens within the camp.

'Chemical Substances' Used Against Palestinians

LD291910 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1837 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Damascus, 29 Nov (JANA) — Shi'ite gangs of despair [ya's] have used chemical substances in their massacres in the Palestinian camps. Reports have confirmed that a number of Burj al-Barajinahcamp inhabitants have suffered from vomiting and diarrhea.

A statement issued by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine said a projectile containing chemicals was launched today on Burj al-Barajinah in the southern suburb of Beirut.

Amal Accuses PLO of Using 'Poisonous Weapons'

NC301742 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] The Social Services Bureau of the Amal Movement issued a statement this afternoon in which it accused the Palestinian fighters of closing the road to the south, thereby besieging more than 700,000 citizens and cutting off supplies to them.

The statement also accused the Palestinian fighters of cutting power lines, which has left water pumps in the south crippled. This in turn has damaged agricultural crops, the mainstay of our people's steadfastness in the south.

The statement said that the Palestinians are using poisonous weapons and materials. It called on medical organizations to examine some of the casualties at the hospitals in the south.

Birri Downfall Connected to Sidon Battle Outcome

NC300712 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] According to highly-placed sources, the fall of Maghdushah to the Palestinians has wiped out every hope of reaching a solution in the forseeable future, and has opened the door for a new phase of fighting. The military balance in Maghdushah, which constitutes the focus of the struggle, has been upset by the Palestinian advance and the retreat of Amal fighters, currently endeavoring to make what gains they can on the ground to offset their losses. However, the same sources ruled out any possibility of success for Amal. Although it is capable of bringing pressure to bear on certain weak camps like Al-Rashidiyah and Shatila, the movement cannot at the same time storm these two camps, in light of the existing circumstances. The fall of either of them would mean the fall of the Palestinian National Salvation Front and the consolidation of 'Arafat's position, according to the sources. [passage omitted]

Given these various factors and implications, the outcome of the ongoing battle in the Sidon area represents a defeat for Syria and the beginning of the downfall of Birri, in both the Shi'ite and the Amal Movement contexts. [passage omitted]

PSP Member Explains Party Stand on Camps War

NC300948 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Akram Shubayyib [Progressive Socialist Party Political Bureau member] has made the following remarks to the press: We cannot simply apportion blame for the non-implementation of the Damascus agreements to any particular party. He added: We are allied with the Amal Movement, but we are against the attacks on the camps. We also support the Palestinians, but we are against their expansion outside the camps.

'Sacred Revenge' Claims Attack on Amal

NC290726 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] An anonymous individual speaking for an organization calling itself the Sacred Revenge telephoned Radio Free Lebanon last night and claimed his group's responsibility for setting off an explosive charge by remote control at 1900 yesterday. The incident occurred as an Amal foot patrol was making its way along a side street off 'Afif al-Tayyibi Street in West Beirut near a post belonging to the [Amal] movement. The caller noted that the explosion was in response to what he said was the desecration of Muslim homes and the massacre of Palestinians. He affirmed that these operations will continue against what he termed the Amal gangs and the 6th sectarian Brigade.

According to security reports, Amal gunmen stormed a number of houses yesterday belonging to Sunnites in West Beirut, confiscating radio sets and antennas.

Swedish Forces Replace UNIFIL French Contingent

NC271347 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Excerpts] UNIFIL spokesman Timor Goksel has told the Voice of Lebanon that the French contingent will withdraw from all its posts in the Tyre area. Its members will regroup in Al-Naqurah, where they will assume posts at the UNIFIL command's general headquarters. He added that UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar has sent cables to Finland, Ireland, and Ghana asking them to incerase the number of their soldiers to fill the vacuum left by the withdrawal of the French force. He said that 170 Swedish soldiers will arrive in Al-Naqurah this evening and that 170 French soldiers will return home. [passage omitted]

Goksel noted that the French contingent will be composed of a total of 520 soldiers by the middle of December. The French soldiers who leave will be replaced by 670 Swedish soldiers. The French logistical contingent will consist of 350 people. The Jawayya area, he added, will become the largest assembly post for French, Ghanaian, Finnish, and Nepalese forces. He said the largest contingents will be those from Ghana, Ireland, and Finland. [passage omitted]

Envoy in FRG Withdrawn, 3 FRG Diplomats Expelled

JN281243 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1218 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Damascus — The Foreign Ministry today summoned the FRG charge d'affaires in Damascus and informed him of the Syrian Government's regret over the FRG Government's embroilment — through pressure from the United States and Britain — in the campaign of deception and accusations against Syria and in taking unjustifiable measures which are not based on any objective evidence.

The Foreign Ministry has told the FRG charge d'affaires that despite its desire to develop relations between the two countries and despite the assurances it used to hear from FRG officials about having such a desire, the Syrian Government, as a result of these unfriendly actions, has decided the following:

1. To withdraw the Syrian ambassador from Bonn and not to appoint a new ambassador until further notice.

2. To expel three diplomats from the FRG Embassy in Damascus and to give them 1 week to leave the country.

3. To reduce the number of employees in the office of the FRG military attache in Damascus so the number will be equal to the employees at the Syrian military attache's office in Bonn.

4. Not to accept official passports issued by the FRG Government.

Envoy in GDR Denies Involvement in Berlin Attack

LD281539 Hamburg DPA in German
1406 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Excerpt] East Berlin, 28 Nov (DPA) — Faysal Summaq, Syrian ambassador in East Berlin, has again decisively denied any connection between his mission and the two Jordanians who were sentenced to long prison sentences for a bomb attack on the German-Arab Society in West Berlin. The court could have checked for itself that "neither official nor unofficial Syrian authorities" were involved in the transportation of the explosives to West Berlin, Summaq told ZDF and DPA today.

Not only did he "expressly" deny such participation, "but we also deny that we know these two persons at all." There have been neither official nor unofficial contacts with them.

He said he is not worried about yesterday's order by the Western Allies in accordance with which "certain Syrian citizens" are banned from entering West Berlin from East Berlin, the ambassador said. Today members of the mission staff were able to travel to and return from the western part of the city without difficulty. He said that there are several hundred Syrians staying in the GDR, including numerous students. The measures imposed on his country by the Federal Government are directed to "the wrong address," Summaq said. Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has repeatedly condemned terrorism. Syria needs no encouragement to participate in the fight against terrorism. [passage omitted]

Iran's Velayati Arrives, Makes Statement

NC290621 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0330 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] A delegation from the Islamic Republic of Iran, led by Foreign Minister Velayati and accompanied by Mr Rafiqdust, minister of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, arrived in Damascus last night. They were received at the airport by Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and other Syrian officials, along with the Iranian ambassador and members of his staff.

In a statement at the airport concerning his trip, Mr Velayati said he was carrying a message from President Khamene'i for Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. He noted that he would hold talks with Faruq al-Shar' and other Syrian officials, adding: In light of our unanimity, and the true coordination between Iran and Syria, repeated visits to Syria are essential for the continued strengthening of the deep and friendly ties between us. In addition, the sensitive regional situation makes such exchanges imperative. Mr Velayati continued: I hope this trip to Syria, like all the previous ones, as well as our meetings with our Syrian brothers, will help consolidate bilateral relations and firm up the position taken by our two fighting countries against the domination of oppression and Zionism.

Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' also commented on the trip to Damascus by this high-level delegation from the Islamic Republic. He declared: We always welcome Mr Velayati's visits to Syria. The message which Mr Velayati has brought for President al-Asad from Mr Khamene'i is evidence of the fraternal bonds linking the two countries in their common struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

Meets Al-Asad

JN291255 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1215 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and Mohsen Rafiqdust, minister of the Iranian Revolution Guards Corps, at 1245 today. Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and the Iranian ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. Dr Velayati conveyed a message from Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i to President al-Asad.

Earlier today, Faruq al-Sahr' received Dr Velayati in the presence of Mohsen Rafiqdust, Assistant Foreign Minister Diya'ullah al-Fattal, and the Iranian ambassador in Damascus. The talks dealt with the bilateral relations of friendship and the current situation in the region.

Meets Lebanese, Palestinians

LD291734 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] A group of Lebanese and Palestinian Shi'ite and Sunni ulema met with Foreign Minister Velayati at the Islamic Republic Embassy in Damascus. The current crisis in Lebanon was discussed at the meeting, which was attended by leaders of various Islamic groups, including the Lebanese Hizballah, the Islamic Group [Jama'ah] from Sidon and Tripoli, and the Islamic

Tawhid Movement. Every single participant in the meeting condemned the clashes, demanded unity among Muslims, and efforts to foil 'Arafat's moves to create a factional crisis in Lebanon, a crisis that is being perpetrated with the collaboration of Saddam, King Husayn, and Mubarak.

Following the remarks of the Lebanese and Palestinian ulema, Foreign Minister Velayati said: Any clash between Shi'ites, Sunnis and the Palestinians will culminate to undermine anti-Zionist struggle. He added: The factor that will reduce the current clashes is the creation and strengthening of the spirit of the anti-Israeli struggle in the region. Once this struggle has been interrupted, the probability of a repetition of such clashes will become greater.

Meets With Jallud

LD291025 Tehran IRNA in English
0950 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Damasucs, Nov. 29, IRNA — Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and Minister of Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Mohsen Rafiqdust, currently here, conferred with Libya's 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, immediately after their arrival on Friday night.

During the meeting the two sides discussed the need to closely follow up the regional issues and the current camp wars in Lebanon and ways to end them.

They also talked about ways to encounter oppressive U.S. schemes and to escalate the anti-Zionist campaign.

They stressed preservation of unity among Lebanese and Palestinians in Lebanon.

They also discussed the U.S.-Israeli conspiracy of sabotagein Lebanon and weakening the anti-Zionist resistance, the implementation of which, they said, had been delegated to the PLO's Yasir 'Arafat.

Departs 29 Nov

JN291914 Damascus SANA in Arabic
1855 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Damascus, 29 Nov (SANA) — Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mohsen Rafiqdust, minister of the Iranian Revolution Guards Corps, and the delegation accompanying them left Damascus today after concluding a 24-hour visit to Syria.

They were seen off at Damascus International Airport by Foreign Minister Dr Faruq al-Shar', the director of protocol at the Foreign Ministry, the Iranian ambassador in Damascus, and embassy employees.

Jallud Meets With Lebanese, Palestinian Figures

LD291006 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland
in Arabic 0215 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Excerpt][passage omitted] Yesterday evening, Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud met with George Hawi, leader of the Lebanese Communist Party; 'Asim Qunswah, regional secretary of the Ba'th Party in Lebanon; Brothers Ahmad Jibril, Talal Naji, and Fadl Shurur of the PFLP General Command; and Mustafa Ma'ruf Sa'd, secretary of the Nasirite Popular Organization. [passage omitted]

Meets With Khaddam

LD290045 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic
2300 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Yesterday [28 Nov] in Damascus, Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud met with brother Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, and the leaders of Palestinian organizations and Lebanese patriotic forces in an effort to save the deteriorating situation surrounding the Palestinian camps. Staff Major Jallud will continue his contacts with all the leaders of the Palestinian Salvation Front and the Lebanese patriotic forces in order to follow up on the deteriorating situation of the Palestinian camps in Lebanon.

Holds News Conference

LD300016 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland
in Arabic 2115 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud, held a news conference in Damascus this evening attended by a number of correspondents of Arab and foreign newspapers and agencies.

At the beginning of the conference Staff Major Jallud reviewed what had taken place during the meetings of the general secretariat of the pan-Arab command of the revolutionary forces, which discussed the aggressive threats, to Syria by the United States and its aircraft carrier Britain and the Zionist enemy, as well as the development of events in the Palestinian camps in Lebanon and their repercussions, and the role of the Great Al-Jamahiriyah, Syria and the Lebanese patriotic and Palestinian forces in trying to stop the bloodshed.

He pointed out that the secretariat adopted a number of resolutions, including publicly known and secret resolutions.

Replying to questions from journalists, Major Jallud affirmed that what is taking place around the Palestinian camps is a conspiracy and a fire that could affect us all and is something that is more dangerous than the military and economic and political conspiracy against Libya and Syria.
He said: We are placing our weight behind Syria and the Palestinian brothers to block this conspiracy. He explained that there is no justification for a Palestinian or a Lebanese to die in these battles because we are in the same trench and we must all die to resist the Zionist enemy and confront the Phalangist regime. He explained that those battles were motivated by fanaticism which developed on both sides.

Staff Major Jallud added: We are making every effort and directingall our energies to destroy this conspiracy which benefits the Zionist enemy, the United States, Yasir 'Arafat, the Phalange and Arab reaction.

Staff Major Jallud called on the popular Lebanese forces and the young men of the Palestinian revolution and all the effective elements of the patriotic forces to stand up to the conspiracy so that they will not discredit their patriotic history and their prominent and effective role in fighting the Zionists and inflicting defeat on U.S. imperialism and expelling its soldiers, making them run away like scared mice, also because they championed the Palestinian revolution after the black September massacres.

He said: Submission and succumbing to the imperialist strategic plan will inevitably lead us to destroying our strength to the benefit of our enemies. He affirmed that we are resolved to throw our weight in full behind Syria to find a solution along with the Lebanese and Palestinians from inside the single trench so that we may face our real enemies together.

Staff Major Jallud affirmed the need for everybody to adopt a selfless stand and view the issue as a whole because what is happening today is a conspiracy against the Great Jamahiriyah, Syria and the Lebanese patriotic forces. He explained that there is no sense in this war.

He also affirmed that the reason for the failure of the efforts that have been made to stop that war lies in the lack of will and the domination of factionalism and spirit of revenge and the breach made against us by the enemy forces.

He said: We trust Syria and we stand alongside it in one trench and we unite our efforts to reach an understanding with the Lebanese and Palestinian parties, noting that Syria stands along side the patriotic Lebanese and Palestinian forces to find a practical project which can be applied if the political will prevails.

Iran Mediates Truce In Lebanon Camps War

LD281831 Tehran IRNA in English
1720 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Beirut, Nov. 28, IRNA — Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam said Thursday that the warring parties in the camps war in Lebanon have agreed to respect a truce effective as of Friday Prayers time.

Sheykh ol-Eslam made the remark in the Syrian capital where he held separate talks with leader of Lebanese Tawhid Movement Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban and chairman of the Palestine National Council, Khalid Fahum, at the Iranian Embassy.

It was emphasized in the talks with Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban that the fighting between Amal and Palestinian forces should be ended. In the meeting with Khalid Fahum, Sheykh ol-Eslam expressed regret and concern over the Palestinian attack on the Maghdoushe village. He also elaborated Iran's views on solving the problem. The Palestinian side at the talks is said to have welcomed the suggestion.

Meanwhile, Sheykh ol-Eslm gave a press conference in the Syrian capital where he briefed the press on Iran's two-weeks of effort to bring an end to the camps war.

He thanked the Lebanese ulema for their help to the Iranian delegation in trying to mediate an end to the clashes, and called on them to stress on the need for a cease-fire in their Friday Prayers sermons.

He furthermore called on Palestinians to withdraw from Maghdoushe Heights, (?East) of Saida, and for both sides to end the siege of the camps so that food can be distributed.

Meanwhile, Sheykh ol-Eslam met with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam on the same day in Damascus where he briefed him on the activities of the Iranian delegation headed by Ayatollah Jannati to end the clashes. The Syrian vice president said his government supported Iran's efforts to end the bloodshed.Present at the meeting was Iranian ambassador to Damascus, Hojjat ol-Eslam Akhtari.

'Joint Plan' Reported To End Camps War

NC302017 Paris AFP in English
1949 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Damascus, Nov 30 (AFP) — Syria, Libya and Iran have put forward a joint plan to end the Lebanese "war of the camps," a Palestinian leader said Sunday, as the death toll from a weekend of fighting between Shi'ites and Palestinians neared the hundred mark.

Ahmad Jibril, head of the pro-Syrian Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC), said that under the plan "the Syrians and Libyans will guarantee the Palestinian position and the Syrians and Iranians will guarantee that of Amal," the Lebanese Shi'ite militia.

But, he added, the plan, suggested by Syria and Libya and approved by Iran, was "still not complete and will need some final touches."

Speaking after a meeting here between the pro-Syrian Palestine National Salvation Front (PNSF) leadership and Libyan deputy leader 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, Mr. Jibril said Mr. Jallud would soon put the accord to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad for his approval.

Mr. Jibril said any new peace accord needed guarantors because of the failure of previous Palestinian-Amal agreements. [passage omitted]

Damascus Reports Revolutionary Forces Statement

JN300840 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0515 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] The General Secretariat of the Arab Revolutionary Forces command has ended its meetings and adopted several measures to confront possible future hostile campaigns against Syria and the Arab nation. Brother 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the 1 September Revolution Command Council, held a news conference in which he condemned the imperialist onslaught against

Syria, the bastion of resistance. He affirmed that Syria, under President Hafiz al-Asad, represents the pan-Arab will of the Arab nation and is capable of destroying the aggression directed against it.

The final statement of the emergency meeting of the General Secretariat of the Arab Revolutionary Forces stated that the General Secretariat differentiates between terrorism and the just, legitimate struggle of nations. The statement called for exposing the aims and objectives of the hostile campaign against Syria and for boycotting U.S. and British goods and interests and those who follow the example of the United States and Britain.

Interior Minister Confers With Saudi Counterpart

JN300853 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Talks between the delegations of the Syrian and Saudi Ministries of Interior were resumed this afternoon. The Syrian side was led by Minister of Interior Muhammad Ghabbush and the Saudi side by Saudi Minister of Interior Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The talks were attended by the Saudi ambassador in Damascus. The two sides discussed ways of developing bilateral cooperation on issues that concern the two ministries.

At the beginning of the session Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz expressed the hope of promoting positive cooperation between the two ministries in all fields to serve the interests of the two fraternal countries. He affirmed that the views of the two sides were identical on the various Arab security issues. Prince Nayif praised cooperation between Syria and Saudi Arabia in all fields for the benefit and security of the Arab nation.

Interior Minister Muhammad Ghabbash affirmed Syria's eagerness to increase security cooperation with all the Arab countries. He indicated that Syria's relations in this regard with several countries yielded positive and effective results. He said he hoped that meetings between the Syrian and Saudi Ministries of Interior will increase to benefit Arab interests in general, and Arab security in particular.

Prince Nayif accompanied by Interior Minister Muhammad Ghabbash visited the police academy in Al-Qabun this afternoon. He was acquainted with the various stages of practical training of the academy's cadres and units and observed the practical training of these units. Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz expressed, in the official visits log, his pleasure with and appreciation for the high standard of training. He praised the efforts of officials in this scientific establishment to achieve this high standard and wished success in serving our Arab nation.

Saudi Minister Departs

JN301752 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi Arabia's interior minister, has extended his thanks to President Hafiz al-Asad and the Syrian Arab people for the hospitality he received during his 5-day visit to the country during which a cooperation protocol was signed between the Interior Ministries of the two countries. Prince Nayif said the visit was an opportunity to hold talks with Syrian officials on matters related to the security and safety of the two countries, stressing that viewpoints were identical on the various subjects discussed.

Prince Anyif left Damascus this afternoon and was seen off at Damascus International Airport by Minister of the Interior Muhammad Ghabbash, the Saudi ambassador in Damascus, the embassy staff, and a number of senior officers of the Internal Security Forces.

Interior Minister Departs for Conference in Tunis

JN301749 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] The Arab interior ministers council meetings will open in Tunis tomorrow to discuss a number of subjects. Responding to the ferocious onslaught wrongly blaming the Arabs for international terrorism and studying inter-Arab security cooperation top their agenda.

Minister of the Interior Muhammad Ghabbash left Damascus this afternoon heading an official interior ministry delegation to participate in this council's session.

Bulgaria's Tanchev Arrives in Damascus 30 Nov

JN301448 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Petur Tanchev, Bulgarian State Council first deputy chairman and secretary of the Bulgarian National Agrarian Union, arrived in Damascus at 1130 today. Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Mustafa al-'Ayid, president of the General Federation of Peasants, and the Bulgarian ambassador in Damascus welcomed him at the airport. [passage omitted]

'Official' Talks Begin

JN302020 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Damascus — Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Petur Tanchev, Bulgarian State Council first deputy chairman, at 1930 today. The meeting was followed by an official session of talks attended for Syria by 'Isam al-Na'b, minister of state for foreign affairs; Mustafa al-'Ayid, president of the General Federation of Peasants; Assistant Foreign Minister Diya' al-Din al-Fattal; Taha Bali, assistant minister of economy and foreign trade; and Jabr al-Kafri, director of the East European Department at the Foreign Ministry. The talks were attended on the Bulgarian side by Ivan Ganev, deputy minister of foreign affairs; Viktor Gogov, member of the permament secretariat of the People's Union of Bulgarian Farmers; Spas Georgiev, deputy minister of foreign trade; and Atanas Samsarev, Bulgarian ambassador in Damascus.

The talks dealt with the current international situation, the situation in the Middle East, and relations between the two friendly countries.

Al-Asad Cables PDRY's Al-'Attas on National Day

JN291629 Damascus SANA in Arabic
1215 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Damascus, 29 Nov (SANA) — President Hafiz al-Asad has sent a congratulatory cable to Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium, on the occasion of the PDRY's national day anniversary.

In his cable, the president expressed his sincere congratulations and greetings to Chairman Al-'Attas and to the fraternal PDRY people in his name and in the name of the Syrian Arab people.

Ba'th Party Official Returns From Visit to Cyprus

JN301452 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1215 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Damascus — Comrade Wahib Tannus, Ba'th Party Regional Command member, and his accompanying delegation returned to Damascus yesterday at the end of an 8-day visit to Cyprus during which he participated in the Cypriot Progressive Party of the Working People's conference.

During this visit, Comrade Tannus also met with several Cypriot political leaders and held political and party talks with them on the current situation in the Mediterranean basin, and on party relations between the Ba'th Party and the parties which expressed their support for Syria's struggle under Comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad against imperialism and Zionism.

Damascus: U.S. Exerts 'Intense Pressure' on West

JN291526 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, the U.S. Administration continues to exert pressure on Western states to make them participate in the rancorous campaign against Syria, despite the U.S. Administration's preoccupation with its own problems and successive scandals, despite the contradiction between its words and deeds, and despite the exposure of the campaigns of lies and false accusations which the U.S. Administration organizes to deceive the U.S. and world public opinion to find pretexts for its acts of aggression and terrorist plans. It is not strange for the United States, which never disguised its dissatisfaction with and dislike for Syria's policy and stands, to exert pressure on some European states to make them support its stands that are hostile to peace, to the interests of peoples, and to its Middle East policy that has failed to gain the support of the area peoples.

It does not matter much to the United States if the interests and relations of the Western states, particularly the European states, are threatened in the Middle East because the U.S. Administration is prepared to fight national liberation movements in the Middle East to the last position, the last interest, and the last relationship held by European states in the Middle East. The interests of the Western states in the region are the last thing that matters to the U.S. Administration. A glance at Middle East developments since the end of World War II reveals that the United States has mercilessly competed with the European states and occupied many of their economic positions, particularly the positions related to petroleum. Today, the United States does not shrink from pushing its Western allies away from their positions in order to replace them.

Some Western states allied with the United States or linked to it through regional organizations or NATO resist U.S. pressure in defense of their own national interests and out of their belief in the invalidity of the various pretexts furnished by Washington to undermine their relations with Syria and the Arabs and to adopt hostile stands against them, and also out of their absolute refusal to join the sinking ship of U.S. Middle East policy. However, the intense U.S. pressure has achieved a measure of success in other countries and has made some of those who were not convinced by the U.S. pretexts — and who said so in their undeclared contacts as well as in their consultations with some of their allies — to join the campaign of fabrications and false accusations against Syria. Of course, such a stand does not serve the development of good relations between these states and the Arabs, the cause of peace and security in the region, or, above all, the national interests of these states which have strived for many years to build ordinary and objective relations with the Arabs that are beneficial to the two sides.

The scenarios planned and carried out by Israel and the United States in London and Berlin so they can be used as a pretext for the campaign against Syria are so trivial and transparent that their planners and executors can be clearly identified. Regardless of how hard the U.S. Administration and Israel — and those who follow them — try they will never be able to link Syria with terrorism. The terrorists of the world are known. Those who have turned terrorism into a state policy in Washington and Tel Aviv are known. Those whose hands are stained with the blood of peoples and their national heroes are also known. All of the media campaigns and psychological warfare will not be able to turn the U.S. and Israeli terrorists into angels, or turn those who are struggling against terrorism and foreign occupation into terrorists.

Syria rejects and condemns terrorism because that is its principled stand, but it will never forfeit its support for national liberation movements and the struggle against occupation or give up its demand for Israel's withdrawal from all occupied Arab territory and for the recognition of the national rights of the Palestinian Arab people, the campaign led by Washington or the threats and pressure from any quarter notwithstanding. Syria, which has always declared that it wants good relations with all states on the basis of mutual respect, noninterference in internal affairs, and mutual interests, is friendly with those who are friendly with it and is hostile to those who are hostile to it, extends a hand of goodwill to those who show goodwill toward it, and extends a knife toward the hand that wants to harm Syria to cut it off in order to protect Syria and the Arabs, and safeguard the ethics and principles in international relations.

AL-BA'TH Views U.S. 'Pressures' on Western Europe

JN301021 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Press review]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Under the headline "The U.S. Attempts to Impose Hegemony over Europe" *Al-Ba'th* says: The U.S. Administration which has sought, under President Reagan, to practice the policy of enforcing obedience through terrorist methods in every sense of the word, focused part of this policy on western European states in order to turn them into U.S. satellites. In order to achieve this objective, the U.S. Administration used every method and on several occasions used economic methods with the Europeans which nearly exhausted the people of several allied countries. It did this by directly using monopolistic companies and banks, as well as the pretext of defense, to turn the territories of its allies into farms for its nuclear warheads.

The newspaper explains: Lastly, but not least, the role of the terrorism game emerged when a number of European capitals were hit by a series of explosions which were followed by brainwashing statements to implicate Arabs in the first instance and afterward Syria with these incidents. Thus, the U.S. scheme for Europe planned and supervised by the Zionist lobby intensified. However, not all the European countries became entangled in this dilemma. Britain for example affirmed its indulgence in the aforementioned scheme while the Bonn government gave in to U.S. pressures. However, some European countries realized the game and affirmed its open rejection of any measure that contradicts with right and justice. [passage omitted]

Paris Radio Interviews Prime Minister Shamir

LD280027 Paris Domestic Service in French
1820 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir on the "Facing the Public" program, presented by Gilbert Denoyan; with Stephan Denis of *Le Figuro*, Jean-Pierre Langelier of *Le Monde*, Marc Travers of *Liberation*, Paul Nahon of Paris television, and Ralph Pinto and Alain Menargues of Paris Radio; in Jerusalem; Shamir remarks in French; attribution of questions to individual correspondents given only where known — live]

[Excerpts][Denoyan][passage omitted] Mr Prime Minister, I said a few moments ago that you Israelis are at the center of a political scandal that is rocking the United States; that is, the sale of arms to Iran. Your responsibility in this matter undoubtedly needs to be clarified, and at all events your participation in this affair has somewhat blurred Israel's image of intransigency toward the states which engage in terrorism. Why, then, did Israel take part in this operation?

[Shamir] I think this has been explained several times. Israel has nothing to do with any wish to assist Iranian terrorism, but in this case it is a matter of cooperation with the U.S. and human [word indistinct] of saving the American hostages. You know very well that we consider ourselves allies of the United States, we have quite fruitful cooperation with the United States in this region, in this part of the world, and when the United States asked Israel to provide assistance for this operation we were ready, and we contributed to this operation.

[Denoyan] But it will be difficult today for the Israeli government to say, as it has always said: We will never negotiate with terrorism

[Shamir] That's right. That is our line, that is our policy, but in this case it is not a matter of a change in this policy, but of a special case. It is a matter of saving human lives, it is a matter of cooperation with our American allies.

[Denoyan] Over to you, Ralph Pinto.

[Pinto] Mr Prime Minister, if you rendered a service to the United States, if this was a special case, does this mean that there will not be other special cases and also that this special case began a long time ago?

[Shamir] You know, to every rule there are exceptions. This is to say that Israeli policy and American policy, moreover, toward international terrorism is well known. But there are exceptions there, and in this case we worked together with the United States for this specific cooperation.

[Denoyan] Marc, over to you.

[Travers] Mr Prime Minister, we understand your explanations on the fact that Israel interceded in this matter to help the United States, especially given the problem of the U.S. hostages, but President Reagan himself stated that these arms sales were not solely to resolve the problem of the hostages but to set a date for possible changes in Iran. In Israel's view, can the fact that Israel participated in this operation be considered as an option in relation to the Gulf War?

[Shamir] We are not taking part in this war. We are not involved in this Gulf War. It is well known that Iraq and Iran are hostile to the state of Israel. For us, the most important argument for our participation in this operation is the human aspect, but we are not opposed to the considerations which President Reagan mentioned.

[Pinto] Let me put the question in a different way: Is there, for Israel, a priority enemy in the Gulf War?

[Shamir] There is no priority. Both these states are Israel's enemies and this is well known. We have no interest in preferring one to the other.

[Denoyan] Over to you, Paul Nahon.

[Nahon] Mr Shamir, are you not afraid that one day these weapons you have just delivered to Iran will be used against you, in Lebanon for example?

[Shamir] That might happen, that might happen, but, you know, these weapons are not special weapons that have (?to be feared) by Israel. By this I mean that there is no special danger in these sales. We have created a [word indistinct] situation.

[Nahon] Let me ask you to be precise on another point, Mr Shamir. Is this the first time you have delivered arms to Iran? Has this never stopped since the time of the shah?

[Shamir] You know, at the time of the shah we sold large quantities of weapons.

[Nahon] But since the time he has been out of power, have you been supplying weapons?

[Shamir] You know, this question of arms sales is quite a special question. It is a problem about which the states of the world prefer not to speak.

[Denoyan] Maybe a few more questions.

[Question] Mr Shamir, Mr Reagan is having difficulties in Washington over this arms issue. Do you not have the impression that one way or another he is perhaps trying to make Israel carry the can for this?

[Shamir] I do not think this is President Reagan's intention. We know him well. Perhaps he has certain difficulties at the moment, but we are very certain that he does not intend to accuse Israel.

[Question] Well, I think you have more or less answered this question of the arms sales. I would now like to talk a little more about the view you have of the French government's attitude to yourselves, to Israel, and to the situation in the Middle East, especially since Jacques Chirac has been at the Matignon [Prime Minister's Office]. First, how do you evaluate the withdrawal of UNIFIL's French forces from Lebanon?

[Shamir] We have never regarded UNIFIL as a force that can ensure the security and stability of this region. We are not opposed to the presence of UNIFIL, but we do not ask the European countries or others, including France, to send their soldiers to defend our borders. But if the various European states and others intend to maintain a certain UNIFIL presence there we will not oppose it.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, one has the impression, deep down, that there have been some small developments over the last few weeks and that Israel is less hostile to the presence of UNIFIL than in the past, especially from the moment when Israel realized that UNIFIL might leave. Is my feeling about this correct?

[Shamir] We are not hostile, we have never been hostile to the military forces of friendly countries, like the French forces, the Italian forces or any other, but we have always said to our friends that UNIFIL is not the solution.

[Question] And you yourself even think that UNIFIL is no use?

[Shamir] It is of some use. I would not say that. Perhaps the presence of UNIFIL makes a certain contribution to stability in this region. Perhaps it is of some use to the unfortunate people of Lebanon, but it is not a solution for our security in this region.

[Question] Mr Shamir, has there been a change or a development in French policy with regard to you, with regard to the Middle East, since 16 March 1986? Do you feel, do you see a difference between the policy of Francois Mitterrand and the policy of Jacques Chirac on the Middle East?

[Shamir] I do not see any change between the two periods. French policy has always been a policy of friendship toward Israel on the one hand, and understanding for the Arab countries, the Arab factor, on the other.

[Question] Who is your interlocutor in Paris, Mr Shamir? Does the Matignon have priority or is it the president's office?

[Shamir] We are always interested in maintaining our relations and our dialogue with the president, as with the prime minister.

[Question] In an interview with the *Washington Times* that was discussed a great deal in France and abroad, Mr Chirac reported a comment by Genscher which to a certain extent implicated the Israeli secret services and the Mosad in the attempted attack which took place in London. In a more general way than this particular aspect what did you think of Mr Chirac's interview?

[Shamir] I was happy that Mr Chirac gave this interview; I was happy with this interview. He said that he did not say this, so for me the incident is over.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, if we stay a bit longer with Lebanon, with the Israelis and with the other foreign forces which are in Lebanon, how do you judge the development of the situation between the Palestinians on the one side, the Hizballah on the other, Amal on the third side, the Syrians, the Iranians — are there developments on the ground, or is it deteriorating further and will you be threatened one day?

[Shamir] You know, what is happening in Lebanon is an ongoing tragedy. We know all the forces acting there — the PLO, the other Arab terrorist forces, the Amal, the Hizballah, all the others. They do nothing to bring a solution, an end to this Lebanese tragedy. It pains us very much to see this tragedy here because we love Lebanon and we have a great deal of sympathy for its people. The Lebanese are a very nice people, but one cannot see the solution, the end to this tragedy. Unfortunately we cannot (?help) at the moment and I see that the others, I see that Syria, despite the large number of forces it has there, is not bringing about any solution to the problems of Lebanon, nor UNIFIL.

[Question] Is there still a solution for Lebanon?

[shamir] Theoretically, yes. There must be a unified Lebanon, a Lebanese state which is independent.

[Question] Do you believe that there is [words indistinct]?

[Shamir] Certainly, there is a Lebanese people, is there not? There was a Lebanese state, and if there were no violent interventions from abroad, that could happen one day, if they are left to settle matters among the various Lebanese factions without Syrian intervention, Iranian intervention, perhaps there will be a solution, but for the time being there is none.

[Question] Israel intervened on a massive scale in Lebanon in 1982, in particular, to expel the Palestinians, armed Palestinians. It seems that today they have come back in force and in large numbers. This observation gives rise to two questions. The first one is: How do you evaluate the situation now, 4 years after the intervention in 1982? And does Israel have a kind of threshold beyond which it would be obliged to reassess its attitude to Lebanon in relation to the reinforcement of the Palestinians?

[Shamir] Well, Israel tried to do something for Lebanon. We expelled — it's true — terrorist forces from Lebanon. And the terrorists are now trying to come back again. It has not yet returned to the situation of 1982. It is far from that. There are too many of them over there but they do not yet constitute a danger, a real danger for Israel. And now it is clear that the majority of the Lebanese feel threatened by this Palestinian terrorist presence and there is a hope that they will at last manage to reduce these forces without our intervention. We have no intention now of going into Lebanon once again. We are limiting ourselves to the defense of the border region. In this context things are going well, more or less.

[Question] If in the future, Mr Shamir, in the coming months there were to be an increase in the numbers of Palestinians in Lebanon, would there be the threat of a fresh intervention by you, if it constituted a new danger for you?

[Shamir] You know, I'm not going to speculate now about the future. I don't believe that this has just happened. [as heard] For the time being, one can see a certain terrorist force, the PLO, and other terrorist groups. One can see the very widescale resistance by the other Lebanese factions against this Palestinian terrorist force. I do not believe it will be necessary to see yet another Israeli intervention.

[Question] At any price?

[Shamir] You know, in politics one never says never.

[Question] On the same subject, at what point do you consider the PLO danger will be so great as to necessitate a change in your policy?

[Shamir] I have already said that I don't want to enter into speculation. I don't want to unveil all our plans for the future. I believe at this moment that our intervention will not be necessary.

[Question] In any case, one can perhaps ask, (?what if) the Palestinians were to reorganize as they were able to before 1982, so that you would be obliged to return in force to Lebanon?

[Shamir] My assessment of the situation is such that I do not envisage such a possibility. [passage omitted]

[Denoyan] Over to you, Stephan Denis.

[Denis] Mr Shamir, let me come back to the reduction in the French UNIFIL contingent. I want to ask you two or three precise questions. Were you surprised by this decision? Who informed you about it — was it the presidency, was it the Prime Minister's office?

[Shamir] We were not surprised by this decision, especially after the losses inflicted on the French forces. You know no state can tolerate it when its soldiers are being killed, especially abroad, and especially when it does not see the absolute necessity for the presence of its forces, so I must say that I understand this French decision.

[Denis] All right, it did not surprise you, but who informed you about it?

[Shamir] Oh, I can't remember. I think we received the information from both sides of power in France.

[Denis] I ask you this question because the general interpretation in France by observers is that Mr Chirac has a policy which tends toward disengagement while Mr Mitterrand, if he had made the decision alone, would probably have preferred to maintain the French troops there. Therefore there is a certain evolution of French policy with respect to Israel and the Middle East.

[Shamir] Yes, this is a French issue, and in the end it will receive a French solution.

[Denis] When the presidential elections (?take place), you mean?

[Shamir] Oh, that depends, that depends on French factors. [Question] Do you think, Mr Shamir, that the French Government today, in its approach to dealing with the problems of terrorism, is behaving in a way which is completely adapted to the situation which has arisen after the spate of bomb attacks which has taken place in France, and which some people think Syria could be behind? That is the first point; and the second point is this: Do you feel that Syria could have been involved in these of attacks which took place this fall in Paris?

[Shamir] We know that Syria is one of the states which supports international terrorism. This has been proven in Britain, this has been proven just recently in the FRG. So it is clear. I do not have all the details about what happened in France. I believe that the French Government knows them better than I do.

[Question] Do you believe that the 'Abdallah family are terrorists?

[Shamir] I do not know all the details about this terrorist family, but I think that the French Administration which is dealing with this knows about this problem in depth, and as far as the fight against international terrorism is concerned, we would like to see clear decisions, more forceful decisions by all the countries of the world, not only by France, against terrorism and above all, against the states which support terrorism. I will not say that we are very pleased with what has been done so far, but I hope that other steps will be taken in the future.

[Question] Do you think that Mr Chirac is mistaken when he says, at the rostrum in the National Assembly, that there is no categorical proof that Syria was involved in the bomb attacks I was talking about a few moments ago?

[Shamir] In France, you mean?

[Question] Yes.

[Shamir] You know, I do not want to express my opinion on these details of the terrorist action in France. I will not say whether Mr Chirac is right or wrong. It is up to him to judge.

[Question] Yes, but you have Mr Shamir, one of the most effective secret services, the Mosad. You undoubtedly have intelligence about what has happened, and let me remind the listeners that you yourself were a head of the Mosad, an official of the Mosad, and therefore you are undoubtedly very well informed. It seems to me that you are being careful not to embarrass Mr Chirac.

[Shamir] I would just say that our security organizations know a great deal in our region, they have a good knowledge of what happens here. I will not say that they are particularly specialized in what happens in Europe.

[Denoyan] Ralph Pinto, over to you.

[Pinto] Mr Prime Minister, is it possible to believe that certain services may have gone beyond the control of the Syrian president — because in France, and not only in France, it is sometimes claimed that there are people who have acted on their own initiative, in order to embarrass the Syrian president?

[Shamir] You know, for me it is very difficult to believe such a thing, because knowing the Syrian system as I do, and the absolute power of the president, it is very difficult to believe that there could be a decision on a very serious operation without the knowledge of the president.

[Denoyan] Over to you, Stephan Denis.

[Denis] Mr Chirac has publicly stated his belief that pressure should be brought to bear on the moderate Arab regimes in the Middle East, because the main danger is that of Muslim fundamentalism. Your predecessor Mr Peres also seemed to lean on these moderate Arab regimes. Do you envisage the same policy, and is Mr Chirac right?

[Shamir] I would say that we have to seek moderation in our region, because if we wish to attain peace, we have to seek moderate elements, not extreme elements, but if these elements which call themselves moderate are ready to enter into direct negotiations with us, this has yet to be seen.

[Denoyan] Over to you, Paul Nahon.

[Nahon] Mr Shamir, do you understand how France can negotiate at the moment with Syria and Iran to get its hostages back?

[Shamir] Well, you know, this human problem of the hostages is quite a special problem. And I cannot say anything to deny this intention to do exceptional things to obtain the hostages' release. We (?also) have our experience, unfortunately, in this area. And we have sometimes done things which were abnormal.

[Nahon] By that you mean the delivery of Israeli arms to Iran, for example?

[Shamir] In this case it is a question of an American policy. But there were cases where we negotiated through the Red Cross for the release of our hostages, and, you know, sometimes I see those families of the hostages — it is very difficult to establish clear rules which will apply to every case.

[Travers] Mr Shamir, you yourself have been a militant in the clandestine war, something your enemies described as a terrorist at the time. Do you think that everything which is happening today, whether it be abroad or in the Middle East is a product of terrorism in general and must be fought as such or can one also imagine that the lack of a solution in the Middle East creates a certain type, a certain form of war, which is certainly to be condemned from a moral point of view, but which has more to do with a political solution than any other?

[Shamir] You know, one has to make a clear distinction between a true struggle for the liberation of a people, and terrorism in this form in which it exists now in several spots in the world. In my case, for example, it was a matter of setting up a Jewish state, to make the British army leave here. We never intended to destroy England. You know [words indistinct] war at that time not to have a British governor here, but to have a British ambassador here, and we achieved that, you know. But in the terrorist movements which are acting here or in Europe now, one does not see this clear distinct struggle with this political goal that everyone can understand. Here, for example, in this terrorist war against us it is a matter of destroying our state, and destroying it physically, not only politically, of striking down our entire civilian population, because these terrorists do not fight against our army, against our security services. They fight against the civilian population — it is altogether different. One cannot make comparisons, and I believe that that is a reason for the lack of understanding which sometimes exists between us and French public opinion. In France, you know, one always intends, one always has the inclination, I should say, to compare the French resistance with these terrorist groups. It is altogether different — or with the Algerian war. It is different, it is a special phenomenon which will not bring about any political solution.

[Travers] The thing which is not different is that there is a nationalist aspiration on the part of the Palestinians to have a state. Let us take a specific example — your government is preparing to expel from his country a Palestinian journalist who is well-known here, Akram Haniyah, who is the chief editor of a Jerusalem daily, in flagrant violation of all the stipulations of the Geneva Convention, which has been signed by your government. Haniyah is obviously a PLO sympathizer, but thousands of young Palestinians are also sympathizers of the PLO. I would even say further that there are some who are much more radical than Haniyah. So, by forcing the departure of a man who is relatively open to dialogue and who accepts the existence of the State of Israel, are you not afraid of radicalizing the young people even more. What will you do in 10 years, in 20 years, when you no longer have anyone left who will speak out in favor of negotiation?

[Shamir] You know, first of all, these measures which we are taking against this person are not a result of his journalistic activities. He is a man who is active in the terrorist movement, the PLO, and this has been proven, you know. We are not very happy to use such measures. If our security services take such an action they have a reason for it, and no one who belongs to this group, the PLO, accepts the Israeli presence, and the existence of Israel, because the ideology and the philosophy of these terrorist movements are that the State of Israel has no right to exist.

[Question] One has the impression, Mr Shamir, that during the period of government of Mr Peres there was a very clear development, and that you are taking steps backwards, let us say, on this matter.

[Shamir] Excuse me, but you know, you are not right, because with regard to this problem of the PLO there is no difference of opinion between myself and Mr Peres. In the political programme which our National Unity Government must follow there is a clause which states very clearly that we will never negotiate with the PLO. Of course we want to negotiate with all the Arab countries.

[Question] You said earlier that one cannot say never in politics. One never says never.

[Shamir] That is another ideology. You know, this decision was taken in view of this ideology, this philosophy of the PLO. An ideology is not a policy, it is more than a policy, so with those who want to destroy our state, who are not interested in having peace with Israel, with them we shall never negotiate because it would be useless.

[Question] But Mr Shamir, the majority of the Palestinians, all the same claim to be in the PLO, so if one day you want to reach a solution to this problem one hardly sees who your interlocutor could be if not the PLO.

[Shamir] You know, I do not believe that the majority of the Palestinian Arabs believe that the PLO will one day bring about a solution to the problem. They see that after more than 20 years of the existence of this movement they have not gotten anywhere, and you know that this terrorism, this (?Arab) terrorist movement has been the dominant factor in the Palestinian Arab population since the beginning of the century — the PLO is not a new movement, and this is perhaps the reason why they have not succeeded, because among the Palestinian Arabs there was never a democratic political movement.

[Denoyan] Ralph Pinto, it's over to you.

[Pinto] Mr Shamir, how do you assess the influence of Egypt and Jordan on Yasir 'Arafat? Does this influence exist, or are they not capable of very much?

[Shamir] They would like to have an influence on him, but you see that they are not having any success. There are always talks, but he escapes their pressure to show the kind of moderation which you talked about a few moments ago. Relations between Yasir 'Arafat and Jordan have been broken, that is well-known. There is no cooperation between them. With the Egyptians there is something, but I do not think that they have much faith in the possibility of cooperating with Yasir 'Arafat because he has never accepted the peace treaty which they concluded with Israel.

[Denoyan] Marc Travers?

[Travers] Mr Shamir, what could you reply to a Palestinian who, living today under military occupation, came to see you and said: We do not want Israeli governors but we are willing to accept an Israeli ambassador in the Palestinian state?

[Shamir] Well, if this Arab does not belong to the PLO, if he is not a terrorist who thinks that our people must be killed, if this is an Arab who is a patriot, who is really interested in the happiness of his people, I assure you that we will find a common language with him.

[Travers] The impression has been created that the process toward what you are describing appears to have broken down at the present time. The impression is that nothing is progressing or leading toward any advance toward a solution. What could make it possible to bring about a situation in which a major step can be made in the coming months or years?

[Shamir] It is not as simple as that, but you know we once concluded the Camp David accords with President al-Sadat, and in these accords there is a part on the solution of the Palestinian problem, and according to these accords we must proceed toward this solution in an evolutionary and gradual manner. There has been talk of the principles of autonomy of the Palestinian Arabs in the regions of Judea, Samaria and Gaza — an autonomy for a transitory period of 5 years, and after 5 years the parties — all the parties, that is to say the Palestinian Arabs, Jordan, Egypt, Israel, and the United States — will negotiate a stable status for these regions. Unfortunately the talks on the establishment of this autonomy were broken off by the Egyptian Government. We have lost time, because it is already more than 5 years since the negotiations began, so we have lost time, but I think that it is never too late.

[Travers] Are you going to renew dialogue with the Egyptians on this point?

[Shamir] I will propose to the Egyptians that they renew these negotiations within the framework of the Camp David accords.

[Denoyan] Stephan Denis?

[Denis] Mr Shamir, is it not a fact that maintaining the status quo, far from being something that you deplore, is, in fact, your true policy?

[Shamir] You know, when there is no progress they say that it is the status quo which exists, but we are always seeking to advance toward peace. We are still making efforts to achieve peace, and we will continue these efforts.

[Denoyan] Paul Nahon?

[Nahon] Mr Shamir, I wanted to know whether or not you firmly condemned the action of Rabbi Kahane last Sunday in Jerusalem?

[Shamir] Certainly.

[Nahon] In the clearest possible way?

[Shamir] There is no doubt about that.

[Nahon] But nevertheless you allowed 1,000 or so people to shout "Death to the Arabs" for several hours in the old city. They are anything but moderate, these people!

[Shamir] These are very extremist people, but what you must always bear in mind is that this is a small group which is not connected with any part of our people. This is a completely isolated group, and we sent our security services and our police to put an end to these demonstrations. You know, there are always, in different countries, (?minimal) groups which make (?trouble).

[Denoyan] All right, Mr Prime Minister. Let me thank you for having answered so extensively and fully the questions we put to you and for having done so in French. I hope it wasn't too difficult?

[Shamir] Well, let's say it wasn't easy!

Shamir: 'Negligible' Quantity of Weapons to Iran

TA281227 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1155 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir is currently meeting the Newspaper Editors Committee on the occasion of 29 November [date of UN decision on the establishment of the state of Israel], being observed tomorrow. Our correspondent Razi Barqay reports from Bet Sokolov in Tel Aviv:

[Begin recording] [Barqay] The traditional meeting between the Israeli prime minister and the newspaper editors is presently taking place. Yitzhaq Shamir delivered a lengthy address, speaking about our history and about the declaration made on 29 November 1947. He asked the correspondents not to focus their questions exclusively on recent events, but his request was not met. The first question, by *Davar* editor Hana Zemer, was whether there was no danger that the weapons which reached Iran will eventually be used against us:

[Shamir] In any weapons deal it is impossible to know with certainty the destination of the weapons. The international weapons market today is so complicated and intricate that you can never know where you might run into the weapons. However, we must take into consideration the fact that the weapons currently in question are quantitatively negligible in international standards, and these quantities cannot influence or decide the outcome of any confrontation. Usually when we have to decide on weapons sales we take into consideration the question of the extent to which this or that deal might harm Israel. We believe that in the affair currently under debate we also took this into consideration and decided that this is a fair risk.

[Barqay] Yitzhaq Shamir says the risk is fair, and while we are airing this excerpt he is continuing to answer questions. He will not be able to dodge current issues such as the Vanunu affair, the Iranian deal, and the infighting in the Herut Party. [end recording]

On Arms Money, Iran, Iraq

TA281845 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1815 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says that everything Israeli officials did in relation to the arms to Iran was done in the proper way and in accordance with Israel's national interests. The prime minister was addressing the association of newspaper editors and said that so far the United States has not appealed to us with a request that Israelis involved in the affair be questioned. Our political correspondent Yig'al Goren brings excerpts of the prime minister's remarks:

[Begin videorecording] [Goren] For the first time since the eruption of the Iran affair, the prime minister addressed the issue publicly, but today, too, he refrained from divulging many details. To the question of where the money made in the weapons deal went, Yitzhaq Shamir replied:

[Shamir] Israel had nothing to do with the financial remuneration for the weapons. We said this specifically in our communique: We sent U.S. arms to an address given to us, and the buyers transferred the money in return to the United States according to an address given to them by the Americans. These funds never crossed Israel. Therefore, there is no question of profits here, or where the money went or what was done with it.

[Goren] We asked the prime minister whether Israel has decided to prefer Iran over Iraq, and whether a debate had been held on this issue.

[Shamir] Those who decided that Israel should participate in this operation took into account all the political ramifications and all the various considerations. There is here nothing like the preference of one country over another. No debate was held on the matter, but neither was there any need for such a debate to be held on the subject. We know that both countries are hostile to Israel.

[Goren] We asked the prime minister whether there was some malfunction in the Israeli handling of the transfer of arms to Iran, and whether the proper conclusions would be drawn about those responsible for this.

[Shamir] As I have said, the very execution of the business was done by people entrusted by the U.S. Government to carry out this job. Israel participated in a certain part of the activity. At this point, I would like to say that we know and sometimes talk out of a consensus over the existence of strategic cooperation between Israel and the United States. Such a thing indeed does exist. This cooperation carries a certain content, and, furthermore, we want it to have content. There is no doubt in my mind that everything that was done was done correctly in accordance with the national interests. [end recording]

Defense Industry Concerned By Iran Deal

TA271130 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 27 Nov 86 p 3

[Report by Arye Egozi]

[Text] Deep concern was voiced in the Israeli military industries yesterday over the possibility that the U.S. Congress would reach the conclusion that Israel had helped the Administration bypass it on the sale of arms to Iran.

"If this happens, we will encounter difficulties completing ongoing projects like the Lavi or carrying out deals that only a few days ago seemed to be safely tucked in our pockets," a senior military industries source said yesterday.

It is the U.S. Congress that approves the military assistance to Israel as well as the special aid for the Lavi project. So far, thanks to its strong Washington lobby, Israel succeeded in getting all it wanted, sometimes even despite the Pentagon's firm opposition. Congress is also expected to approve the sale of Israeli Kfir's to Honduras soon. This deal, involving approximately $100 million, is extremely important for the aircraft industries, which are currently embroiled in a serious financial crisis in view of the cutbacks in commissions for the defense establishment and due to a drop in the profitability of exports.

Arms Traced Through Honduras to Contras
TA271201 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
27 Nov 86 p 3

[Report by Gil Qeysari and Yosef Walter]

[Text] Two years ago, an Israeli was involved in the supply of weapons to the contra underground, which is trying to topple the (leftist) Sandinista regime in Nicaragua. Furthermore, the Defense Ministry was officially asked to sell weapons to the Honduran Army, and these weapons were apparently later handed over to the contras.

Ma'ariv has a copy of an official letter addressed to the Defense Ministry, signed by Colonel Julio Perez, who was in charge of logistics in the Honduran Army's Ordnance Corps. Moreover, in a telephone conversation with Israeli elements, the colonel confirmed the authenticity of the documents and verified his signature.

These documents were given to the Defense Ministry 2 years ago at the most, through an Israeli arms dealer active in Latin America, called Pesah Ben-Or.

The lists involved large quantities of arms, far beyond the needs of the Honduran Army.

An American company called "Sherwood," which was mentioned by columnist Jack Anderson as one of the two companies that helped the CIA transfer arms to the Nicaraguan rebels, employed two Israelis at that time: Pinhas Dagan and 'Amos Gil'ad.

Pinhas Dagan had been a representative of the Israel Aircraft Industries [IAI] in charge of the area stretching between Mexico and Colombia, and had previously also represented the Israeli plant "Degem Ma'arakhot" in America.

'Amos Gil'ad had been an IDF transportation officer. According to Anderson, the latest deal in which "Sherwood," whose owners are Jewish and which has offices in Washington and Miami, was involved with the import of 17,000 "Browning" machine guns from the Israeli Defense Ministry. According to Anderson, the U.S. authorities forbade receipt of the consignment, which according to "Sherwood" was earmarked for assembly and export to governments "friendly" to the United States.

The name of the Israeli 'Amos Gil'ad was mentioned at a certain stage also in connection with another dubious affair: He knew a man called (Gerard Lazinian), an Armenian residing in Miami, whom the FBI had detained on suspicion of involvement, together with another group, in the attempt to murder Honduran President Roberto Suazo. The chief suspect in this affair was General Jose Bozan-Rosa, the Honduran military attache in Chile. According to the plan, the group had intended to seize control over Honduras after the assassination. The plot was uncovered and raised a furor.

"Sherwood" was connected to (Lazinian). It seems that 'Amos Gil'ad made the introduction between (Lazinian) and the Israeli Pesah Ben-Or, who handled a large portion of the unofficial arms trade with Central American countries and who, until approximately a year ago, was based in Guatemala.

Yosef Walter adds: Defense Ministry sources said last night that if indeed Israeli weapons reached the hands of the contras in Nicaragua, this had not received the consent of the Defense Ministry, nor was it known to it. Israel sells weapons to sovereign countries, and if weapons that were intended for a sovereign country in any way reached the contras, Israel was not involved, they emphasized.

Rosenne Conveys Shamir Message to Shultz
TA290710 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0700 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Israel's ambassador in Washington confered with the U.S. secretary of state yesterday and conveyed to him a verbal message from the prime minister that indicated Israel's wish to promote the peace process in the Middle East. The message came in response to another message recently relayed to Shamir by the U.S. ambassador in Israel. The talk between Ambassador Rosenne and Secretary Shultz lasted about 30 minutes.

Israeli sources in Washington told our correspondent that the affair of the arms deal with Iran and Israel's involvement in it were not raised at all in the meeting.

MK Bar'am Cancels European Visit Over Iran Affair
TA280952 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0900 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Labor Party Secretary 'Uzi Bar'am has canceled a visit he planned to make in the next few days to Britain [as heard] and France as a guest of the Italian Communist Party and the French Socialist Party. Our party affairs correspondent Razi Barqay reports that Knesset Member Bar'am decided to cancel the visit because he was afraid that he would not be able to explain Israel's role in the affair of the weapons deals with Iran.

Indictment Against Vanunu Submitted 28 Nov
TA280843 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0830 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] The indictment against Mordekhay Vanunu was submitted to the Jerusalem District Court a short time ago. At the same time a request was made to remand Vanunu in jail until the legal proceedings against him are completed.

Our correspondent Alon Ben-David reports that Vanunu is charged with three counts: collaborating with an enemy at war with us, a clause appearing in the chapter dealing with acts of treason violations; aggravated espionage; and transferring secret information without authorization.

Peres on Syrian Nerve Gas, USSR Role in Region

TA270915 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
27 Nov 86 pp 1, 9

[Report by Menahem Rahat and Me'ir Bleich]

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres told members of the Labor Party Central Committee that Syria is manufacturing nerve gas, which will be mounted on Soviet-made missiles.

Peres accused the Soviet Union of constantly upgrading the level of armament, arguing that it is always the first to introduce and supply modern weapons into our region. This was the case when the Soviets introduced the first MiG's of different types, and the same held true when it provided Syria with surface-to-surface missiles.

The foreign minister added that a top Soviet official told him: "We know that you need good ties with the United States and that you depend on U.S. weapons, because we provide the Syrians with missiles and aircraft. As long as we provide such weapons, you have no choice but to seek arms in the United States. Perhaps the way to downgrade the armament level in the region depends on us, not you: We will limit the supply of modern weapons to Syria, and you will return the gesture in kind." [passage omitted]

Government Aware of Syrian Chemical Capability

TA281144 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
28 Nov 86 p 3

[Report by military correspondent Yosef Walter]
[Excerpts] Chemical weapons, apparently including nerve and mustard gas, have recently been transferred from Syria to Iran. These reports have recently been confirmed by Western intelligence sources and, as far as the Israeli intelligence community is concerned, constitute further proof of Syria's strengthening in terms of chemical weapons.

Security sources in Israel said yesterday that there is nothing new in the report published by *Janes Defense Weekly* since Israel has for a long time known that not only does Syria manufacture chemical weapons but also that it intends to transfer them to other elements which would not hesitate to use them. The military sources emphasized that Syria also intends to use chemical weapons directly against Israel. The sources stressed that these developments further threaten peace in the region and undermine any attempt to solve the Israeli-Syrian conflict through peaceful means. [passage omitted]

Relying on information from Western intelligence services, security sources in Israel emphasize that Syria has the most advanced chemical potential in the Arab world and it may also have the means to produce chemical weapons.

There have been many reports in the West that Syria has the technical ability and plans to acquire chemical weapons and transfer them to Iran.

Shamir: Syria Behind Terrorism in South Lebanon

TA301645 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew
30 Nov 86 pp 2

[Report by political correspondent Yosi Melman]

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says that Syria is behind the acts of terror is southern Lebanon against Israel. He said this to Swedish Defense Minister Roine Carlsson with whom he had a meeting last Friday.

The Swedish minister is scheduled to visit Damascus this week where he will meet with the Syrian leaders, and Yitzhaq Shamir has suggested that Minister Carlsson talk to the leaders of the Syrian regime so as to put a stop to the terror that harms the UNIFIL soldiers, among others.

The prime minister promised the Swedish defense minister that Israel will do everything so Swedish soldiers serving in UNIFIL can carry out their duties.

Communique Issued Following Kigali Summit

EA301305 Kigali Domestic Service in French
1800 GMT 27 Nov 86

["Joint communique" issued at the conclusion of the Kigali regional summit on 27 November]

[Excerpts] At the invitation of the president of the Republic of Rwanda and founder-president of the MRND [National Revolutionary Development Movement], Major-General Juvenal Habyarimana, the founder-president of the MPR [People's Movement of the Revolution] and president of the Republic of Zaire, Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku Ngbendu wa za Banga; the chairman of the UPRONA Party [National Unity and Progress Party] and president of the Republic of Burundi, Colonel Jean-Baptiste Bagaza; Kenyan President Daniel Totoich arap Moi; Tanzanian President Ali Hassan Mwinyi; Ugandan Prime Minister Samson Kisekka; and Sudanese Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi attended the regional summit held in Kigali on 27 November 1986.

The summit was held in pursuit of the continuance of regular consultations emphasized at the previous summits held in Goma, Entebbe, and Nairobi. The summit provided a further occasion to exchange views on problems of common interest.

The seven heads of state and government once again stressed the fundamental importance they attach to the policy of good-neighborliness.

In this respect they reiterated their firm determination to continue working for the consolidation of peace, security and stability both at the level of each country and at the regional level to provide their respective peoples with favorable conditions for social and economic development and to promote, in an atmosphere of trust among their countries, fruitful and dynamic cooperation based on brotherhood and on the effective solidarity required by the interdependence of their interests.

In light of the conclusions reached during their previous meetings, the heads of state and government reaffirmed their commitment to ensuring continued security in the region. They particularly stressed the need for regular contact to promote cooperation among their respective security services to enable them to adopt concrete measures to discourage any possible attempt to organize subversive activities likely to endanger security along their respective countries' borders or to endanger the maintenance and reinforcement of peace and stability in each of the countries.

Fully aware that the presence of refugees in a country can represent an element of insecurity for their countries of origin if they are not sufficiently cared for, the heads of state and government stressed the following principles:

The states have already clearly committed themselves to the continuation of a humanitarian policy for refugees. The states have committed themselves to preventing refugees from indulging in any political, military, or propaganda activities likely to spoil good relations between their host country and their country of origin. Refugees will be housed at least 50 km away from their country of origin. The states must not use refugees as combatants in any way. The states must assist in creating conditions for voluntary repatriation, while at the same time considering the particular situation of the country of origin. Any armed person applying for refugee status must be immediately disarmed. Arms and military equipment in his possession must be surrendered to his country of origin.

On their objective to promote cooperation in all sectors of development where their governments can take action to ensure effective cooperation and solidarity between their peoples, they laid particular emphasis on the decisions made at the bilateral level and within the framework of the organizations of which their countries are members.

They expressed satisfaction about the progress so far achieved and stressed the need to strengthen cooperation in the following sectors: trade, transport and communications, cultural exchanges, scientific research, information, nature, and environmental protection.

On trade, the heads of state and government decided to intensify cooperation by implementing existing bilateral and multilateral agreements while at the same time paying specific attention to the measures that respond to the needs of the people inhabiting border regions and that contribute to the fight against smuggling.

They stressed the importance they attach to strengthening cooperation in the sector of transport and communications as an essential factor in promoting trade between their countries.

On cultural exchanges, they decided to develop these to enable their peoples to get to know each other better and to help each other to meet their needs in the field of (?training).

Concerning the scientific research sector, the heads of state and government stressed the need to promote cooperation to enable the seven countries to benefit from the results of research to increase production, especially in the sectors of agriculture and animal husbandry, and in the struggle against endemic epidemic deseases.

On cooperation in the field of information, they underlined need for a policy that facilitates freer circulation of information among their countries to strengthen the spirit of solidarity in their struggle to promote development and to avoid the spread of rumors likely to create tension.

On current international problems, the heads of state and government stressed their concern about the persistent economic crisis and its negative effects on development in African countries. In this respect, they urged the international community to support the African Continent in implementing its priority program for economic recovery. They stressed the need for developing countries to strengthen mutual cooperation, to put into a concrete form their solidarity and interdependence, and, in this way, to actively participate in the promotion of the new international economic order.

They reaffirmed the fundamental importance of the (?ethic) defined in the UN and OAU charters and the principles of the

Nonaligned Movement. In this respect, they strongly condemned the Pretoria minority racist regime, underlining its responsibility in perpetuating and aggravating the atmosphere of tension and crisis in southern Africa by its stubbornness in continuing its anachronistic apartheid policy, maintaining its illegal occupation of Namibia and intensifying its aggression, blackmail and intimidation of the Frontline States.

The heads of state and government paid tribute to the memory of the late president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, Samora Moises Machel, whose tragic death in a plane crash on 19 October deprived Mozambique and all of Africa of a gallant and tireless freedom fighter. They issued an appeal to all the daughters and sons of Africa to continue with even greater determination the struggle for freedom to which the late Samora Machel had devoted his life.

They reaffirmed their countries' solidarity with the countries directly confronting the Pretoria regime's policy of destabilization with the South African people who are struggling for the introduction of democracy into their country and with the Namibian people who are struggling for respect for their right to self-determination and independence that must be exercised in accordance with the relevant decisions of Resolution 435 adopted in 1978 by the UN Security Council, which is the only solution acceptable to the international community for the settlement of the Namibian problem.

At the end of the session, the heads of state and government agreed to hold their next regional summit in Khartoum in March 1987 in response to the invitation from the prime minister of the Republic of Sudan. [passage omitted]

Signed in Kigali on 27 November 1986 by:

The President of the republic of Rwanda and MRND founder-president, Maj-Gen Juvenal Habyarimana; the MPR founder-president and president of the Republic of Zaire, Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku Ngbendu Wa za Banga; the UPRONA Party chairman and president of the Republic of Burundi, Col Jean-Baptiste Bagaza; Kenyan President Daniel Toroitich arap Moi; Tanzanian President Ali Hassan Mwinyi; Ugandan Prime Minister Dr Samson Kisekka; and Sudanese Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi

Al-Mahdi on Southern Sudan

EA282235 Kigali Domestic Service in French
1115 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Excerpt] This morning the fourth summit for East and central Africa ended in Kigali. Following the departure of the Kenyan head of State Daniel arap Moi, the other heads of state and government and their delegations left Kigali this morning. Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko was the first to leave at 0617; Ugandan Prime Minister Samson Kisekka was the next to leave at 0910. The Ugandan prime minister made a statement to the press in which he hailed the excellent relations of friendship, cooperation, and brotherhood that unite Rwanda and Uganda, which are also united by historical, cultural, and geographical ties. We therefore share almost the same problems, for which we must seek appropriate solutions, he said.

On the just ended summit, Samson Kisekka indicated that it constituted a privileged framework within which our brotherly countries and heads of state and government could discuss and consult with each other on all points of interest to our region.

Burundian President Colonel Jean Baptiste Bagaza left at 0930. The Sudanese prime minister left after him.

In an interview with the press, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi tackled the problem of southern Sudan. He declared that his government was ready to have talks with the rebel Colonel John Garang on three conditions:

1. That John Garang accept the cease-fire;

2. That he cease his collaboration with foreign countries, which help him undermine security inside Sudan;

3. That he ceases to mistreat the civilian population of the south of the country.

Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi also indicated that he did not see any problem in Khartoum giving autonomy to southern Sudan. Concerning the death of John Garang and [rumors] that he might have been seriously injured, the Sudanese prime minister declared that he did not have any precise news apart from rumors in the media.

Finally, on the signing of a possible mutual defense agreement in the framework of the regional summit, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi said that this is not the most important thing because, he said, what is important is to find an opportunity for the heads of state and government to consult each other and discuss all problems of interest to our region for the development and security of our countries.

Finally, Tanzanian President Ali Hassan Mwinyi left Kigali at 0925. [passage omitted]

PTA Ministerial Meeting Opens in Addis Ababa

LD301703 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic
1000 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] The ninth session of the PTA [Preferential Trade Area] ministerial meeting was opened at Africa Hall today by Comrade Adis Tedla, member of the WPE Central Committee Political Bureau and deputy chairman of the national central planning committee. The 3-day meeting will study in detail the report presented by the PTA consultative meeting recently held in Addis Ababa. Opening the meeting, Comrade Adis Tedla noted that the ministerial meeting was charged with the great responsibility of implementing the plans laid down in the Lagos Plan of Action by strengthening the practical activities of the PRA.

Disagreements Over Trade Seen

LD301725 Nairobi KNA in English 1007 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Addis Ababa, 30 Nov — Kenya is among the first six PTA [Preferential Trade Area] member countries who have agreed to carry out a tariff reduction of 25 percent as a first step aimed at eliminating customs duties in trade between member-states of the organization. The other five member-countries are Burundi, Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe. The elimination of duty on trade goods from member countries within the PTA subregion would result in liberalization of trade within the subregion with more commodities finding their way into the common list of trade items qualifying for preferential treatment.

The organization had set 1992 as the target year for the total elimination of all trade barriers such as customs duties between the member-states of the PTA. However, at the ongoing fifth [as heard] meeting of the PTA Council of Ministers in Addis Ababa, Ethiopian delegates have called for the total elimination of customs duty to be pushed back beyond 1992. There is fear among some countries that the zero option in the eventual elimination of duty would result in huge losses of revenue among the PTA member-countries.

The Kenya delegation to the meeting is led by a permanent secretary in the Ministry of Finance, Mr Githuku, and consists of Kenya's ambassador to Ethiopia, Mr P.J. Ndugu; Kenya's ambassador to Zambia, Mr Tumwa; and other senior government officials.

ALGERIA

President Bendjedid Receives PFLP's Habash

LD292125 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Excerpts] President Chadli Bendjedid has had audiences with Mr Messaadia [head of the FLN Central Committee Permanent Secretariat], Rabah Bitat [speaker of the National People's Assembly] and George Habash [PFLP general secretary]. [passage omitted]

The talks with George Habash would certainly have dealt with the latest developments concerning the Palestinian cause, particularly as the World Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People is marked today.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Phones Al-Asad on Lebanon Situation

LD290042 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0015 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution yesterday evening [28 November] urgently telephoned Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad about the grave situation in Shatila camp, which has been exposed to fierce bombing by the Shi'ite Ya's [Amal movement] gangs.

During this telephone contact, the brother leader called on President Hafiz al-Asad to intervene personally to save the population of that camp from the mass annihilation to which they are exposed at the hands of the Shi'ite Ya's gangs.

DFLP's Hawatimah Cables

LD300508 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution received a telegram from Brother Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the DFLP, in which he affirmed that the criminal acts committed by the Shi'ite Ya's gangs against the Palestinian people in Lebanon revealed the existence of a comprehensive plot aimed at destroying and disarming Palestinian camps.

In his message to the leader he said: We highly appreciate your stand in support of the Palestinian people and we urgently appeal to you to intervene to protect the destiny of our people from the engineered massacre, particularly since the Zionist enemy is taking part along with the Shi'ite Ya's gangs in the implementation of the massacre and the total destruction plot.

Emergency Summit Proposed

LD301028 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Tripoli, 30 Nov (JANA) — A responsible source at the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison has stated that the Great Jamahiriyah agrees to hold an emergency Arab summit to discuss the plight of the Palestinians in Lebanon.

Newspaper Claims Reagan 'About To Fall'

LD291321 Tripoli JANA in English 0826 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Harth 29, *Jamahiriyah News Agency — Al-Jamahiriyah* newspaper published by the revolutionary committees reviewed the series of failures and successive defeats suffered by the administration of Israel's mad dog in various parts of the world. It started in Cuba, in Nicaragua, in Angola, in Lebanon and ended with the failed aggression against Great Jamahiriyah.

Under the title "The Zero Hour is Near" the newspaper asserted that these successive defeats came about due to the contradiction between the U.S.-colonialist policy with the international laws, charters and conducts [as received].

The paper said that as soon as the world public opinion and the American people itself came to know about the cheating, the campaigns of misinformation and the lies and distortions of truths, they started to pour its fury on the era of Israel's mad dog and his administration which made the legitimacy of him staying in power an impossibility.

It concluded by saying: "World and U.S. media have no doubt whatsoever that the fate of mad dog Reagan has been drawn clearly and that he is about to fall 'inevitably.' "

Algerian Military Delegation Continues Visit

LD010046 Tripoli JANA in English 1417 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Al-Bayan al-Awal, Al-Harth 30, *Jamahiryah News Agency* — The Algerian military delegation yesterday visited the administration and the management of the great man-made river where a member of the people's committee of the project briefed them on the strategic objectives of the great man-made river.

The member asserted in his explanation to the Algerian military delegation that the project will transform Great Jamahiriyah into a further phase of development.

Members of the delegation expressed their admiration for this massive achievement being realized by the Great Al-Fatih Revolution.

Tours Military College

LD010049 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Banghazi, 30 Nov (JANA) — The Algerian military delegation which is on a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah, paid a visit to the College of Elite Strike Forces [al-Sa'iqa] and Paratroopers this morning. [passage omitted]

CSSR Delegation Departs Tripoli After Visit

LD290024 Tripoli JANA in English 1740 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Harth 28, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — Mr. Vladimir Cerevka, the Czech assistant minister of culture and his accompanying delegation left Tripoli this evening at the end of their visit to Great Jamahiriya.

In a statement he made to JANA, Mr. Vladimir hailed the giant civilised accomplishment achieved by the Libyan Arab people — thanks to the Great Al-Fatih Revolution, Mr. Vladimir said:

"Great Jamahiriya is taking the right way to arrive at liberty and happiness and to struggle against imperialism."

In his statement he pointed out that relations between Great Jamahiriya and Czechoslovakia by saying [as received]: "We were assured that the Libyan Arab people treasure our friendship and wishes to consolidate the relations between the two friendly countries." He concluded by expresaing his happiness and that of his accompanying delegation for visiting Jamahiriya and their participation in the Czechoslovak cultural week held in Great Jamahiriya in the past two days.

MAURITANIA

President's Address Notes 'Terrorist Actions'

LD292301 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic
2300 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Speech to the nation by Colonel Maayouia Ould Sidi Ahmed Taya, chairman of the CMSN [Military Committee for National Salvation] and head of state, on the 26th anniversary of national independence on 28 November — recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful and the compassionate. The anniverary of national independence, 28 November, is an opportunity for each one of us to think about the meaning of this event. [passage omitted]

In the economic field, the implementation of the economic and fiscal reform program continues under good conditions. The rate of economic growth during last year was 3.1 percent, and it is expected that it will be 4 percent this year. [passage omitted]

Here I would like to express my regret at the recent attempt by a group of citizens to deceive international public opinion in order to distort the good reputation of our people. The purpose of this campaign is against our people and country, which has been a haven for peace, unity, civilization, and Islam. With the collaboration of some members of the international press, these citizens wanted to [word indistinct] the reality of our people, and to damage the important progress, which has been, or is about to be, achieved.

First of all, our resources should be directed toward reinforcing the atmosphere of freedom and confidence which will bolster the creative abilities of our people and will achieve development for our country. Therefore I say that this group of citizens, which is marching against the direction of history and which is trying to damage the future of our people through a series of terrorist actions, wanted to damage the security of the citizens and their properties. The stance of the state was firm, and will remain so, toward such behavior. The stance of the state was to completely shoulder its responsibilities for the sake of the public good.

Let those who would like to obstruct our march toward progress know that the insistence of the state in this regard is unequaled except for the strong will of our people to place their national independence, unity, and progress above all considerations. [passage omitted]

MOROCCO

Belgian Foreign Minister Arrives for Visit

LD290630 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Belgian Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans arrived in Rabat this evening on an official visit to Morocco that will last until 2 December. He was received at the airport by Abdellatif Filali, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, and his senior aides.

At Sala airport the Belgian foreign minister told journalists that his visit to Morocco is within the context of strengthening Belgian-Moroccan ties as it is customary for foreign ministers of the two countries to exchange visits. He said that he accepted the invitation to visit Morocco with pleasure because Belgium attaches great importance to the good relations existing between it and Morocco.

Leo Tindemans said that he will take the opportunity of this visit in order to discuss with Moroccan officials ways that could lead to strengthening Belgian-Moroccan relations on the political, economic, and cultural levels. [passage omitted]

King Hassan Holds Talks With UAE President

JN301815 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic
29 Nov 86 p 1

[Excerpt] Rabat (WAM) — UAE President Shaykh Zayid Ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan met with King Hassan II of Morocco in the royal palace in Rabat last night.

WAM has learned that during their meeting, which falls within the framework of their continuous exchange of viewpoints and consultations, the two leaders discussed the latest events in the Gulf region, the political situation in the Arab world, and some world affairs of common concern, in addition to fraternal relations between the two countries and ways to boost them. [passage omitted]

Danish Minister Issues Statement, Departs

LD291801 Rabat MAP in English 1210 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Rabat, Nov 29 (MAP) — Uffe Elleman Jensen, Danish minister of foreign affairs left here Friday after a three day official visit to Morocco at the head of a large delegation of Danish businessmen. Before leaving, Jensen told the press his gratitude for the warm welcome he was met with during his stay and expressed the wish to see his Moroccan peer Abdellatif Filali visit Denmark for further talks and follow-up of this visit.

During his stay here, Jensen conferred with the Moroccan Premier Azeddine Laraki, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Abdellatif Filali and the Minister of Trade and Industry Tahar Masmoudi.

Jensen wound up his visit with a press conference Friday in which he talked about bilateral cooperation, relations between Morocco and the European Economic Community (EEC), and the stance of his country vis a vis the Sahara issue.

As to relations with the EEC, Jensen said his country has always endeavoured for better propositions in favour of Morocco and Mediterranean countries. Jensen, who participated in the talks that mandated the European commission to formulate these propositions, stressed how difficult it is to come up with better propositions and ask member countries threatened by Moroccan products to make more concessions. He also expressed hope to see talks between Morocco and the EEC in the field of fisheries result in a new accord.

Evoking the Sahara issue, the head of Danish diplomacy said "Denmark backs the principle of holding a referendum in the Western Sahara under the United Nations supervision as was proposed by Morocco."

He recalled the neutrality of his country and the fact that his country abstained while the Algerian resolution was put to vote at the United Nations. We saw the resolution as unconstructive and not in line with efforts by the UN secretary general in his attempts to come up with a viable solution to the problem, said Jensen.

Assessing the results of bilateral cooperation and his visit to Morocco, Jensen said his country was ready to contribute to the development of the Moroccan agricultural sector which is a top priority for the government.

Moroccan-Danish cooperation will focus on sectors such as fodder production and the introduction of new crops like colza grains and fodder beets.

Jensen looked with Moroccan officials into the carrying out of an integrated project in the field of fisheries covering all stages from catching fish to canning stages.

Jensen also revealed that an accord was signed Friday whereby Moroccan and Danish companies will create in Morocco a joint venture of dairy products to benefit from financial assistance of the Danish Government.

Talking about the role Europe should play in settling the Middle East conflict, Jensen said an international conference would be useless if not all concerned parties are attending the conference.

SUDAN

Al-Mahdi Returns; Comments on South, Ethiopia

JN281821 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Khartoum, 28 Nov (SUNA) — In a press statement he made to SUNA today while he was on his way home from the Rwanda summit conference that was held in Kigali yesterday, Prime Minister al-Mahdi said that the conference concentrated on the issue of refugees — on which Sudan presented an integrated plan. The plan concentrates on the prevention of tension among the countries and the protection of the refugees. The presidents of the seven countries who participated in the conference approved the plan and included it in the final communique.

Al-Mahdi said that the idea of holding a conference that brings the seven countries together attains the goals of promoting bilateral relations in the fields of security, trade, culture, and the exchange of information. He hoped that the idea would be developed in a way that includes other countries.

On what happened to John Garang, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi said: "I do not know what actually happened to him, and I do not know whether he was killed." He added: "I met those who stressed that Garang is alive. Others conveyed different reports. However, his absence is noticeable. His recordings that are broadcast are old. We cannot be certain about what happened to him."

Al-Mahdi added that what is certain is that there are differences within the Garang group. Some are opposed to fighting a democratic regime that proposes solutions to various issues on a peaceful basis. There are, moreover, tribal differences within the Dinka in addition to differences between the Dinka and the Nuer. Some differences are ideological. Some do not support the Marxist policy while others are keen to abide by it like Dr Lam Akol.

Al-Mahdi stated that Sudan proposed a peace agreement with Ethiopia based on good-neighborly relations and cooperation on all issues, yet Ethiopia delayed its response and preferred to support the rebels. Al-Mahdi stressed that Ethiopia backs the rebels with weapons, training, and food supplies. It, moreover, grants them a radio station which covers one of its official frequencies and provides them with diplomatic passports. He said: "These are documented matters." Al-Mahdi added: Ethiopia, which is based on a totalitarian political system, does not permit any political, military, or political activities unless they are carried out within the framework it wants. That is why such activities undertaken by the rebels confirm its support for them. This is why Ethiopia did not respond positively to the proposal presented by Sudan. Al-Mahdi also stressed the ability of the Sudanese to solve their problems alone. He said that the northerners no longer fear the secession of southern Sudan and the southerners' fear of having Islam and Arabism imposed on them has become unfounded. Al-Mahdi added that there is nothing, actually, that prevents the Sudanese from reaching a decisive solution.

In his statement, Al-Mahdi pointed out that during their meeting in Kigali yesterday he discussed with Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi relations between Sudan and Kenya and the existence of a relief organization belonging to Colonel John Garang in the Kenyan capital. He added that he discussed the need to stop the activities of this organization and the need to have Kenya stand by Sudan in the face of the terrorism created by the rebel movement.

Al-Mahdi said that the Kenyan president stressed Kenya's keenness to do whatever consolidates the unity of Sudan and ends sedition. Inquiring about the reasons that prevent Sudan from continuing negotiations with the rebel movement, Al-Mahdi said that he told the Kenyan president that Sudan has two conditions for holding negotiations with the movement; namely, that the movement abandon terrorism "such as the downing of the civilian plane" and that the government be certain that the movement has freedom of action, because all of the information the government has indicates that the movement is in the grip of Ethiopia.

Concluding his statement to SUNA, the prime minister said that administrative rule will be proclaimed in southern Sudan shortly but there is a conviction that this depends on widespreadapproval. The prime minister said that this approval is the crux of the issue. As for naming the officials, an understanding must be reached on this issue so as to avoid new complications.

Al-Mahdi Rules Out Mobutu Mediation Effort

EA300520 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 2130 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] In a statement for Radio Kinshasa, Mr al-Sadiq al-Mahdi has ruled out the possibility of President Mobutu mediating between the rebel movement and the Sudanese authorities. He commended Mobutu's positive attitude toward Sudan within the framework of the existing relations between the two countries.

Al-Mahdi also said that means of transport and communication by rail, river, and air had been restored in southern Sudan after being made secure.

Northern Town Reportedly Bombed; 15 Injured

NC301149 Paris AFP in English 1143 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Khartoum, Nov 30 (AFP) — Unidentified planes bombed the area around the town of Tokar in northern Sudan last Thursday, injuring 15 people, local press reports said Sunday quoting a member of Parliament from the region.

The daily *Al-Usbu'* quoted deputy Hashim Bamkar from Port Sudan as saying the government had kept news of the air raid from reaching the public.

Tokar lies about 150 kilometers (90 miles) from the Ethiopian border on the main road running along the Red Sea coast.

Mr. Bamkar did not indicate who may have been responsible for the reported air raid, which he called an insult to the Sudanese Government.

SPLM Said To Prepare for New Attack in Equatoria

JN281829 Khartoum SUNA in English 1725 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Khartoum Nov 28 (SUNA) — Rebels of Sudan People's Liberation Movement, SPLM, are now preparing for a new attack on Kapoeta area in Equatoria region, southern Sudan, a delegation of Tabo tribes explained when they met the governor of the region Gen Peter Cirello in Juba recently.

The delegation said the SPLM began gathering its troops in around the areas of (Taros Roma) and (Mamckres).

They added in their security report they presented to the governor that the SPLM used the shortage of the food which faces them there as means to force them to join the movement.

The delegation protested the ignoring by the government of their issue and hailed the Sudanese Army forces for protecting the people there.

SPLA Activities in Bahr al-Ghazal Area Abate

JN291538 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1435 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Babanusah, Sudan, 29 Nov (SUNA) — The activities of the outlaws' forces, the Sudanese People's Liberation Army, have abated in the area between the town of Babanusah, south of Kurdufan, and the Bahr al-'Arab area, Bahr al-Ghazal region, in southern Sudan. This was announced today, Saturday, in a press statement by Lieutenant Colonel Khalid 'Umar al-Ja'li, commander of the Babanusah garrison.

Al-Ja'li explained that the Armed Forces are in full control of that area and have managed to deliver relief supplies to those affected by famine in the Uwayl area. They also managed to transport relief supplies via trucks to Waw, capital of the Bahr al-Ghazal region. Al-Ja'li also said the Armed Forces are drawing up plans to continue maintaining security throughout the Bahr al-Ghazal region to deliver more relief supplies to those in need of them.

Saudi Arabia Reportedly Grants Aircraft, Weapons

JN291258 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Khartoum, 29 Nov (SUNA) — Saudi Arabia has reportedly given aircraft, arms, and ammunition to Sudan. According to the independent *Al-Adwa*, published here, Sudanese pilots are to go to Saudi Arabia to receive the aircraft.

State Council Chairman Ahmad al-Mirghani has cabled his thanks to King Fahd and renewed an invitation to the Saudi monarch to visit Sudan.

Council Denies Report

JN301532 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1438 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Khartoum, 30 Nov (SUNA) — In a statement today, the General Secretariat of the Council of Ministers denied reports in some newspapers yesterday about a Saudi grant to Sudan totaling approximately $3 billion, 70 percent of which was to be in the form of Saudi goods and the remainder as military aid in the form of aircraft and military equipment. The General Secretariat affirmed that such reports are untrue and completely groundless.

Ethiopia Accused of Frequent Border Violations

JN301206 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1021 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Khartoum, 30 Nov (SUNA) — Muhammad 'Uthman Hamid Karrar, the governor of the Eastern region, has announced that the Ministry of Defense is carrying out moves in coordination with other concerned bodies to halt the frequent violation of the eastern border by Ethiopian planes. Karrar said that the Ethiopian Air Force's bombing and violation of Sudan's eastern border have become familiar. He said the Ethiopian bombing of the border has become a fact.

The governor explained that responsibility for defending Sudan is not only the responsibility of the regional government, but rather the responsibility of the Sudanese Government.

Reports received from the Eastern region the day before yesterday, Friday, said that the eastern border was bombed by Ethiopian planes.

Asked about the Ethiopian Foreign Ministry's recent statement denying supporting John Garang, denouncing Sudan's accusations, and threatening to (?open) files in response to Sudan's accusations, Information and Culture Minister Muhammad Tawfiq said that Ethiopia's harboring of the Garang movement and extending food and other aid to it constitute support for the Garang movement.

Ambassador to Ethiopia To Remain in Khartoum

JN301145 Khartoum SUNA in English 1031 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Khartoum, Nov. 30 (SUNA) The Sudanese ambassador to Ethiopia will remain in the Sudan till the Ethiopian Government has taken a decision on the return of its ambassador to Khartoum, a partisan newspaper reported today. Till such a move is taken by Ethiopia diplomatic representation between the two capitals will remain on the level of charge d'affaires, the paper *Al-Hadaf* quoted informed sources at the Foreign Ministry as saying. It is to be recalled that Ethiopia has recently called its ambassador to Khartoum for consultations. A similar step has also been taken by the Sudanese Government when it called its ambassador posted in Addis Ababa for consultations.

Foreign Minister, Libyan Envoy Discuss Ties

JN291546 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1414 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Khartoum, 29 Nov (SUNA) — Foreign Minister al-Sharif Zayn al-'Abidin al-Hindi received here today Jum'ah al-Fazzani, secretary of the Libyan Arab Brotherhood Bureau, in Khartoum. Al-Fazzani said he and Al-Hindi discussed aspects of Libyan-Sudanese cooperation. They also discussed preparations for the convening of a meeting by the joint Sudanese-Libyan committee which will provide a strong, new impetus, and raise bilateral relations to the level sought by the two fraternal peoples.

Al-Fazzani said Sudanese and Libyan views are identical on the current developments in the Arab homeland and Africa, adding that Sudan affirmed its support for the Jamahiriyah against all forms of imperialist conspiracies against the Libyan Arab people.

A high-level Libyan educational delegation arrived here yesterday to follow up the implementation of the cultural agreement signed in Tripoli recently between the secretary of the Libyan General People's Committee for Education and Scientific Research and the Sudanese Education Ministry.

The Libyan delegation will study the technical aspects of establishing a number of technical elementary, preparatory, and secondary schools in Sudan. It will also consider Sudan's request to maintain and support a number of schools in the areas affected by drought and desertification in addition to providing school materials, equipment, and books.

An authoritative Libyan source said the delegation will discuss the possibility of a contribution by the Jamahiriyah to the establishment of Kurdufan University and will also discuss the technical aspects related to the admission of Sudanese students into Libyan universities with the National Council for Higher Education.

Aid to Darfur Region Discussed

JN301930 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1714 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Khartoum, 30 Nov (SUNA) — The Libyan economic aid convoy will arrive in Al-Fashir, capital of the Darfur region, from the Al-Kufrah Province in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah within the next few days. This was announced today, Sunday, by Jum'ah al-Fazzani, secretary of the Arab Brotherhood Bureau in Khartoum, in a press statement following his meeting with State Council Member Dr 'Ali Hasan Taj al-Din.

Al-Fazzani said he discussed with Dr Taj al-Din the official and popular arrangements to receive the convoy within their discussion of the aspects of the integrative relationship between the Darfur region and the Al-Kufrah Province. Al-Fazzani explained that Dr Taj al-Din hailed the developing relations between the Sudanese and Libyan peoples and the comprehensive development efforts the Jamahiriyah is making in the Darfur region. He also said the meeting, which came within the framework of continued discussion to bolster relations between the two countries in all fields, also dealt with the latest Arab and African political developments.

In another development, Idris al-Banna, deputy chairman of the State Council, received Jum'ah al-Fazzani here this morning. After the meeting, Al-Fazzani stated that he and Al-Banna reviewed bilateral relations in the political, economic, social, and cultural fields, and ways to activate them within the framework of Arab unity. They also exchanged views on the latest Arab and African political developments.

Foreign Minister Receives Romanian Envoy, Message

JN291609 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Khartoum, 29 Nov (SUNA) — In an exclusive statement to SUNA, the Romanian ambassador in Khartoum has denied that Colonel John Garang, leader of the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement and commander of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army, is present or being treated in Romania, as reports recently stated. He asserted that relations between Sudan and Romania are strong and developed.

Foreign Minister al-Sharif Zayn al-'Abidin al-Hindi received his excellency the Romanian ambassador here today. He received from him a message from Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu on a Romanian plan to reduce arms expenditure, which Romania has actually implemented and urged countries around the world to adopt by cutting their arms expenditures.

The minister asserted to the Romanian ambassador that Sudan supports any initiative or efforts to reduce arms expenditures and to focus on development.

Egyptian Minister Arrives in Khartoum 30 Nov

JN301202 Khartoum SUNA in English 1016 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Khartoum, Nov. 30, (SUNA) — Egyptian Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif arrived here today on a three-day official visit at the invitation of the Culture and Information Minister Muhammad Tawfiq Ahmad.

Safwat will deliver a message to Chairman of the State Council Ahmad al-Mirghani from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak on the bilateral relations between the two countries.

While here Safwat will review with Culture and Information Minister Muhammad Tawfiq cooperation between Sudan and Egypt in the field of information and culture. He will also meet with Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi and the Democratic Unionist Party leader Muhammad 'Uthman al-Mirghani. The minister will hold a press conference on Wednesday.

Meets With Al-Mirghani

JN301759 Khartoum SUNA in English 1726 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Khartoum Nov. 30 (SUNA) — Egyptian minister Safwat al-Sharif who is currently visiting the country has conveyed a verbal message from the Egyptian President Husni Mubarak to Chairman of the State Council Ahmad 'Ali al-Mirghani on the issues of mutual concern and the situation in the Arab world.

Al-Sharif, who conferred with Al-Mirghani here today said he has conveyed to Al-Mirghani the Egyptian president's compliments, adding that Al-Mirghani has welcomed the expected visit of Mubarak to Sudan.

The chairman of the State Council has stressed the necessity of exchanging visits between the officials in the two countries, Al-Sharif said.

The Egyptian Ambassador to Khartoum Husayn 'Abbas Musharrafah attended the meeting.

On the other hand the joint information committee between Sudan and Egypt began its meetings here today under the chairmanship of Culture and Information Minister Muhammad Tawfiq and Egyptian Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif.

In the meeting Tawfiq voiced the necessity of continuing the dialogue between the two countries for creating new horizons of mutual cooperation.

The Egyptian information minister also addressed the meeting pointing that the Egyptian information had faced great difficulties in dealing with Sudan's reality during the defunct regime of ousted Numayri but now and under the resemblance of ruling system of the two countries, the Egyptian information can freely express Sudan's reality. [sentence as received]

On the other hand chairman of the radio Sawt al-'Arab broadcasting network Amin Basyuni told SUNA following the meeting that the meeting discussed the general steps and performance which have been achieved in fields of information cooperation between the two countries.

It is worth noting that the Egyptian information minister and the accompanying delegation arrived here today on a three-day visit.

Al-Husayn Departs for Tunis Arab Council Meeting

JN301507 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1435 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Khartoum, 30 Nov (SUNA) — Interior Minister Sayyid Ahmad al-Husayn left for Tunis this morning leading the Sudanese delegation to the fifth conference of the Arab interior ministers, which will begin its 3-day work there tomorrow, Monday.

The conference will listen to a report by the secretary general of the Arab Interior Ministers Council on the secretariat's work between the two sessions. The conference will also discuss a plan on Arab strategy for combating drugs as well as the establishment of a hospital to treat drug addicts in the Arab world.

Tawfiq Discusses Arab Summit, Foreign Policy

JN290925 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 29 Nov 86 p 16

[Interview with Culture and Information Minister Muhammad Tawfiq by *Sawt al-Sha'b* correspondent Caroline Faraj in Khartoum — date not given]

[Excerpt] *Sawt al-Sha'b*: What is Sudan's stand on the break in Syrian-British relations?

Tawfiq: It is regrettable to see Syria forced to sever its relations with Britain and to see Britain claiming that Syria was the source of terrorism. We all know that the meaning of terrorism is still ambiguous.

I do not believe that a state like Syria, which is smaller than Great Britain, can terrorize Britain. Then Britain punishes Syria, which is part of the Arab fold. The Arabs categorically reject this, regardless of the reasons.

Sawt al-Sha'b: Do you believe that the current Arab situation is suitable for convening an Arab summit?

Tawfiq: The possibility of convening an Arab summit conference seems to be difficult at the present time because no answer to the following question has been reached: Would the summit conference convene to solve the existing Arab problems and obstacles, or would the existing problems and obstacles be solved before the summit? This makes me believe that the Arab summit conference will not be held at the present time.

Sawt al-Sha'b: What is the general framework of fraternal Sudan's foreign policy?

Tawfiq: We in Sudan always call for following the policy of good-neighborliness. In the past, Sudan was surrounded by many enemies. The first task of the present government was to break the siege of the enemies. Thus, we opted for the policy of nonalignment. Many countries which claim that they are nonaligned are in fact the opposite of this.

We call on our Arab brothers, our neighbors, and the other countries to cooperate with Sudan because this is in line with our interests. I would like to affirm that any country suffering from a shortage of basic resources must not show hostility toward any other country. [passage omitted]

TUNISIA

Syrian Interior Minister Arrives for Meeting

JN010649 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
2115 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Tunis — Interior Minister Muhammad Ghabbash arrived in Tunis today. He will take part in the fifth session of the Arab Interior Ministers Council scheduled to begin in Tunis on 1 December.

In a statement on arrival Ghabbash asserted that Syria attaches special importance to the problem of terrorism facing the Arab homeland and the contemporary world and supports Arab and international efforts to determine the best means to combat terrorism and safeguard the freedom and security of our Arab homeland. Ghabbash said Syria always works for the success of joint Arab action.

Saudi Interior Minister Arrives in Tunis

LD010948 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
1840 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Excerpts] Tunis — Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi minister of interior and honorary chairman of the Council of the Arab Ministers of Interior, and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Tunis this evening to attend the meetings of the fifth session of the Arab ministers of interior, which opens in the Tunisian capital under the patronage of Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba. [passage omitted]

During this session a number of topics on the agenda will be discussed, foremost among which are the activities of the Arab center for security studies and training, the draft Arab strategy for combating drugs, and the laying down of a common Arab strategy to deal with drug trafficking preparatory to concluding an Arab agreement on this matter, which is the subject of interest to officials of various security organs.

WESTERN SAHARA

Polisario Claims Attack on Spanish Fishing Boat

LD291732 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish
1700 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] In a telephone call to Madrid radio, the Polisario Front has made available a communique in which it claims responsibility for an attack on a Spanish fishing boat, the *Estrella del Mar*, carried out by an SDAR [Saharan Democratic Arab Republic] naval unit on the afternoon of 27 November. The *Estrella del Mar* — says the communique — was inside SDAR waters without Saharan authorization, 6 miles off the coast to the south of Aargub and flying a Moroccan flag. The Polisario Front places the responsibility for this incident on the governments of Madrid and Rabat, which mistakenly involve innocent people, and more seriously, oblige Spanish fishing boats to fly the Moroccan flag.

APS on Polisario Executive Committee Meeting

LD291750 Algiers APS in English 1243 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] SDAR (Liberated Territories), 29/11/86 (APS) — The Polisario Front Executive Committee met on Thursday in the liberated territories under the chairmanship of Mr Mohamed Abdelaziz, Polisario Front secretary general, SDAR president, a communique from the Sahraoui Ministry of Information indicated on Friday. During this meeting, the Executive Committee examined the evaluation of the national action strived in 1986 in all field [as received], the communique added.

"The Executive Committee, the text pointed out hailed the positive developments registered on the military plan. The Executive Committee dealt with the Israeli-Moroccan relations which are witnessing since the Ifrane meeting an increasing evolution, it condemned these relations and showed the concern over the danger that these latter represent for peace, security and stability in the north-west region of Africa. On another turn, the Polisario Front Executive Committee examined the American-Moroccan relations and noted with astonishment the intensification of these relations through the successive visits in Morocco of the U.S. military delegations."

TANZANIA

Mwinyi End of Year Report to NEC

EA011025 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1300 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Speech by President Ali Hassan Mwinyi to the National Executive Committee to mark his first year in power at Karimjee Hall, Dar es Salaam — live]

[Excerpts] Ndugu chairman of the Chama Cha Mapinduzi, ndugu members of the party's Central Committee, first of all I would like to express my sincere thanks to you, ndugu chairman, and to all members of the National Executive Committee [NEC] for giving me this opportunity to read out to you a report on the activities of the government during the last year and an account of the expectations and work facing us in the future. This November marks the 1st anniversary of the second-phase government. [passage omitted]

Ndugu chairman, during the past year, our government continued its efforts to cultivate and strengthen the good relations that we inherited between Tanzania and other countries, especially neighboring countries. We did this because we realize that our efforts to reactivate our economy depend largely on the maintenance of good relations between ourselves and our neighbors.

In our efforts to promote good neighborliness, we had the opportunity to visit Mozambique, Kenya, Rwanda, and Burundi. In all these countries we assured our neighbors that the change of leadership in Tanzania has not affected our policy of seeking understanding and cooperation with our neighbors. I wish to assure you, the members of the NEC, that our relations with our neighbors are very good. [applause] Only recently I returned from a meeting of seven leaders from east and central Africa, held in Kigali. The aim of the meeting was to expand cooperation between ourselves and those countries. We also had the pleasure of being visited by various leaders from outside, among them President 'Ali Khamene'i of Iran; Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi; President Museveni of Uganda, and President Hoyte of Guyana. Such efforts will continue.

Tanzania also continued to participate fully in the liberation struggle in southern Africa. We have also taken part in meetings of Frontline States with the aim of planning ways and strategies for eradicating the arrogance of the minority white regime in South Africa.

Tanzania also continued to support the struggle by the nationalists of South Africa and Namibia against the apartheid policy and the Boer colonialism in Namibia. An unfortunate event is that this struggle was dealt a big blow following the sudden death of the former president of Mozambique, brother and colleague Samora Machel. [passage omitted]

The encouraging aspect of this is that the death of President Machel has not in any way divided the people of Mozambique as the enemies had expected. [applause] Under Frelimo's bold leadership the people of Mozambique have continued to strengthen their unity. We commend Frelimo for unanimously electing their brother and colleague Ndugu Chissano, as the second president of the Mozambican nation. [applause] Tanzania has already expressed its intention of cooperating with the new leader in improving the blood relationship between our two states as well as maintaining and intensifying the struggle against Boer provocation.

During the same 1-year period Tanzania continued to propagate our policy of nonalignment. Many of us will remember that the eighth session of the nonaligned heads of state was held last September in Harare, Zimbabwe. Tanzania attended the session and participated fully in its deliberations. One pleasant and significant outcome of this meeting was the setting-up of the African fund to assist Frontline States counter aggression and sabotage by the unjust regime in South Africa. This fund is also intended to help these countries escape the humiliation of depending on South Africa for the transportation of their exports and imports. The government will continue to cooperate with all these countries and to ensure that the aims of the fund are implemented. [passage omitted]

Throughout this period the government has striven to ensure that the limited foreign exchange available is used more cautiously so that we may at least buy oil. It is pleasing to see that for some time now the oil situation in the country has been satisfactory. The government will continue to seek better ways of fully controlling the collection of foreign exchange.

Ndugu chairman, during the said period, we have learned much. One of these things is the decline in the efficiency of government and public corporations. Negligence has spread. Shunning accountability is widespread. Embezzlement has increased. Misuse of government funds has been mounting and thefts have been significant. [applause] These factors have emerged in many sectors of our economy. We have reached a stage where ordinary citizens no longer get the services they are entitled to without annoyance and harassment. Sometimes, citizens are compelled to pay for services to which they are entitled under the constitution. This state of affairs has begun to erode the confidence of the people in public institutions. Such factors also increase the cost of operating our industries and hence raise the cost of our goods.

This chaos had to be dealt with. Therefore in my capacity as president and especially as an NEC member, I had to take steps to arrest the situation on my own behalf and on behalf of you. In this I was guided by a declaration of the 1982 party congress which stated, and I quote: The task of the NEC is to ensure that the issue of accountability is given particular priority. [applause]

I continue. Effective now, the NEC must see that the government and its institutions implement party policy. [passage omitted]

Ndugu delegates, I have already begun this task. In my address to principal secretaries, heads of departments, board chairmen, and executives of parastatals, I announced the government's intention to tackle such bad behavior. [passage omitted]

Our ability to obtain foreign exchange was limited. We were compelled to apply for foreign loans. Our donors were reluctant to continue providing us with loans because they feared that their loans would be misappropriated and fail to produce any success. Their reluctance was mainly due to our failure to repay their loans, but they assured us that they would be ready to revive the loans, provided that we reach an agreement with the IMF. Due to the bad state of our economy, we were compelled to revive our talks with the organization. The Swahilis say that even bitter pills have to be swallowed, so we decided to go ahead. On behalf of you and the nation we held discussions with the IMF and now we have reached an agreement.

Following the agreement we were able to make arrangements for new loans from all our former creditors. The outcome of our discussions was not negative because some of our creditors have agreed to reschedule the debts. A few of them have agreed to erase the debts completely. On your behalf, I would like to thank all of our creditors here in public. The majority of them have expressed their intention to continue assisting us sincerely so that we can succeed in implementing our plan to revive the economy. Some of them have already vowed to assist us financially. As you already know through our news media, some of them have already started assisting us.

I would like to assure the people that the agreement did not make us change the principles of our policy of socialism and self-reliance. We have always based our approach on the task of broadening and strengthening our policy of socialism and self-reliance and doing everything to ensure that government directives fall within these principles.

The agreement was reached after the IMF, for its part, started showing signs that it had relaxed some of its conditions. But there are still some hard conditions that have to be met before the donors will guarantee continued cooperation with us in our plan to revive and strengthen our economy. If we fail to carry out our obligations, they will abandon us in midstream and halt their assistance.

Ndugu chairman, my main request to all party and government officials and to the people as a whole is that we not fail to meet our obligations. [applause] We must always remind ourselves that the responsibility of reviving our economy is ours. It is the responsibility of all of us. As you all know, the development of Tanzania depends on Tanzanians. It depends on every Tanzanian and it depends on every citizen and on every socialist Tanzanian. [passage omitted]

One major event in our country touched the hearts of all Tanzanians and shook the party and government. This was the chaos and killings that occurred in Kilombero toward the end of July. In the very sad incident 4 people were shot and 16 others were injured. The government set up a commission under a high court judge to investigate the root cause of the incident. It later presented the government with a full report in which it recommended steps to be taken. I am pleased to say that the commission has completed its work and its report has been handed to the government. The commission explained the various weaknesses in different areas. It explained shortcomings in management, party institutions, government, and the work atmosphere. After being evaluated, steps recommended by the commission have been implemented in full. Those involving the president have been implemented. The president has directed that government institutions should implement the recommendations that concern them. [passage omitted]

Party Head Nyerere Praises Mwinyi Government

EA011030 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Dar es Salaam — Chama Cha Mapinduzi [CCM] Chairman Mwalimu Julius Nyerere has hailed the second-phase government led by President Ali Hassan Mwinyi for having been able to maintain peace in the country and for heeding his directives in the proper way. The CCM chairman was speaking today after President Mwinyi addressed the nation on the 1st anniversary of the second-phase government at a session of the National Executive Committee in Dar es Salaam. He said the serious doubts expressed by the people during the leadership changes last year concerned the security situation in the country. Mwalimu said the doubt was motivated by the fact that state institutions were being taken over by a new leadership. But, he said, 1 year after the second-phase government took over, peace was still prevailing in the country.

Mwalimu Nyerere said that unlike the first-phase government under his leadership, the second-phase government had established good procedures for supervising the implementation of directives. This had made the government look like a government. As an example he cited the fact that many workers are now doing their jobs in the offices and that they are responding to the call for accountability at their places of work.

The session of the National Executive Committee will continue in Dar es Salaam tomorrow.

President Receives Message From Al-Qadhdhafi

EA010938 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Dar es Salaam — President Ali Hassan Mwinyi today received a special message from the Libyan leader, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi. A statement from State House said the message was delivered to the president by Muhammad 'Abdallah al-Mabruk, Libyan principal secretary of public service. After delivering the message, the Libyan envoy held talks with President Mwinyi on relations between the two countries. Mr al-Mabruk also briefed President Mwinyi on the situation in Chad.

Mr al-Mabruk arrived in the country last night at the start of a tour of several African countries to brief them on the situation in Chad.

UGANDA

Museveni Congratulates SFRY on National Day

EA300524 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1000 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] President Yoweri Museveni has expressed satisfaction with the development of cordial and all-round cooperation between Uganda and Yugoslavia and reaffirmed his government's desire to develop and consolidate them even further for the mutual benefit of the people of the two countries. In a message of congratulations to President Sinan Hasani on the anniversary of the founding of the Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia, President Museveni wished the people of Yugoslavia prosperity.

CAMEROON

President Biya Receives PRC Delegation 27 Nov

AB271645 Yaounde Domestic Service in English
1400 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] A Chinese delegation led by the country's State Adviser Zhang Jingfu was received at State House this morning by the head of state, His Excellency Paul Biya. Speaking to the press later, Mr Jingfu revealed that they had been invited to Cameroon by the head of state to participate in the inauguration of the dam at Lagdo built with Chinese assistance. Mr Jingfu is accompanied by the vice minister of external trade, the Chinese ambassador to Cameroon, the director of economic aid at the Ministry of External Affairs, and the Chinese director general of international cooperation for water and electricity.

Brazilian Minister Arrives for Commission Meeting

AB281637 Yaounde Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] The Brazilian foreign minister arrived this afternoon in Yaounde at the head of a 30-member delegation. Roberto de Abreu Sodre took part late in the afternoon in the first meeting of the Cameroon-Brazil joint commission. On his arrival in Yaounde, the Brazilian minister answered questions from the press.

[Begin recording] [Sodre] I have come to Cameroon to hold talks with the government and to express Brazil's intense interest in the problems of Cameroon and Africa. We will discuss with the Government of Cameroon various problems concerning relations between the two countries which are very friendly. I have always been an optimist. This mission will resolve a large number of issues of great importance for both my country and Cameroon.

[Reporter] On which sector will your discussions with the Cameroonian authorities focus?

[Sodre] They will focus on the cultural and technical sectors, including services, and we have just begun discussions with the Cameroonian Government. [end recording]

Brazilian Foreign Minister Roberto de Abreu Sodre attended in the evening the opening session of the first meeting of the Cameroon-Brazil joint commission. In his opening statement, the Cameroonian foreign minister stressed that the similarity of our resources should not preclude fruitful cooperation.

CAR

Bokassa Trial Begins; Adjourned Until 15 Dec

AB261925 Bangui Domestic Service in French
1800 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Excerpts] The [words indistinct] trial began late this morning at the Bangui criminal court in the presence of the state's constituted bodies, representatives of the world media, the legal body, and a large crowd of observers. Five lawyers have been appointed to defend the accused, Jean-Bedel Bokassa [words indistinct]. Jean-Bedel Bokassa, who had already been condemned to death in absentia in December 1979, is appearing once again for several crimes and offenses including murder, complicity to commit murder, voluntary infliction of wounds, embezzlement of public funds, imprisonment and arbitrary arrests, collusion with a foreign power, threatening internal and external state security, and so on.

At the very beginning of the hearing, the defense raised an objection to the competence of the judge of the criminal court, Edouard Frank. The defense counsels thus challenged the competence of the judge appointed to hear the case because they claimed that he had already presided over trials related to the Bokassa case. The objection was rejected outright. The hearing, which took place in calm and serenity, was adjourned until 15 December at the request of [words indistinct] to enable further questioning. [passage omitted]

Kolingba Sworn in for 6-Year Presidential Term

AB301118 Bangui Domestic Service in French
0600 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Excerpts] General Andre Kolingba, president of the Republic and head of state and government, who was elected in the 21 November referendum to a 6-year term of office, was sworn in yesterday morning at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation in Bangui. [passage omitted]

Listen to President Kolingba reciting the oath of office as president of the Republic for a 6-year term:

[Begin Kolingba recording] I swear solemnly before the CAR people to faithfully carry out my function as president of the CAR, to respect and enforce the Constitution, and to allow myself to be guided solely by the supreme interest of the nation. [applause] [end recording]

In a speech, President Kolingba first thanked all those whose contribution made possible the total success of the 21 November referendum. He noted that the ceremony laid the foundation stone of the institutions of our country and indicated the beginning of the mandate which the Central African people had just entrusted to him.

[Begin Kolingba recording] [Words indistinct] ladies and gentlemen, I am among you today to celebrate the laying of the foundation stone of the new institutions. I want to set up these new institutions in order to carry out the mission which the people entrusted to me in the wake of the recent referendum. The CAR people took part freely and massively in the referendum. In doing so, they have rejected the call for the boycott and showed their maturity, which signals a very promising future. More than 760,000 voters — that is, more than 91 percent of the valid ballots cast — said yes to the Constitution. I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all those who endorsed my line of action. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

CHAD

AFP Interviews President Habre on Libyan Troops

NC291943 Paris AFP in English 1927 GMT 29 Nov 86

[By Bernard Apfeldorfer]

[Text] Ndjamena, Nov 30 [date as received] (AFP) — Libyan authorities are boosting their armed presence in northern Chad despite growing disarray among rebels opposed to the Ndjamena government and discontent in Libya itself, Chadian President Hissein Habre said.

Mr Habre, in an interview with *Agence France-Presse* and a French television channel, said Libya was moving in reinforcements north of the 16th parallel, the "red line" defense perimeter established by France, which provides military backup for the Ndjamena government.

The strengthening was taking place "at a particularly accelerated rate at Fada, Ogoue and Wadi Dum (northeastern Chad), where troop levels have practically doubled in less than two months," he said.

The Chadian president said he feared that the strengthening indicated that Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi was planning a new advance "in desperation."

"Incontestably, Al-Qadhdhafi has problems," Mr Habre said, citing "deep discontent among soldiers and ordinary citizens."

Desertions among Libyan soldiers and officers stationed in northern Chad were a daily occurrence, he said.

He acknowledged, however, that opposition to Col al-Qadhdhafi was "not organized, structured or active and does not represent a force that could constitute a real immediate threat."

The Chadian opposition has been riven with divisions in recent months, with former President Goukouni Oueddei ousted from his position as head of the opposition Transitional Government of National Unity (GUNT) and reportedly wounded in a gunfight with Libyan soldiers in Tripoli.

Supporters of Mr Goukouni have now pledged to work in conjunction with authorities to fight the Libyan presence in the north, while other factions of the GUNT have remained in the pro-Libyan camp.

The Chadian president said his government was now providing troops loyal to Mr Goukouni with materials, but refused to say whether any joint action had been undertaken with them.

Acheikh ibn Oumar, who replaced Mr Goukouni at the head of the GUNT, is "under the Libyans' thumb" he said, despite this "more or less patriotic language."

The Chadian president also praised his country's "excellent relations" with neighboring Sudan. He said he doubted Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi would allow Tripoli to use his territory to attack the Ndjamena government.

Most of the several thousand Libyan forces that had been moved into Al-Fashir in western Sudan had been removed, he said.

Mr Habre "infinitely deplored" that the West African state of Benin "continued to serve as a transit base for mercenaries of all nationalities for the Islamic legion" created by Libya.

Mr Habre also confirmed the arrival of additional aid requested from France, but said his Army still lacked sophisticated anti-tank and anti-aircraft weaponry.

The United States, he said, had been approached for weapons, he said, but "so far the Americans are hesitating. I hope I can convince them."

The president said that any action to be undertaken against enemy forces in the north would [be] "entirely at our risk," citing France's repeated refusal to back up any offensive with air cover.

"Each time we are in a position to deal a blow to our Libyan enemies, we do so," he said.

Libyan Prisoners Presented to Public, Media

AB280926 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Excerpts] Once again, a proof of Libyan aggression against Chad was shown to the national and international public this morning during a ceremony of presentation of Libyan prisoners presided over by Moumine Togoi Hamidi, secretary of state to the Presidency in charge of information and orientation. A team of the French television station TF1, the AFP correspondent, and the national press were present at the ceremony. The Libyan prisoners, 15 in number, looking well in their sparkling white boubous [long gowns usually worn by Muslims], were presented to them. These prisoners, in the words of Moumine Togoi Hamidi, were living proof of Libyan aggression against Chad, as well as our respect for human rights and the international convention on prisoners of war. Moumine Togoi Hamidi made this statement in a short introductory address that we invite you to listen to.

[Begin Hamidi recording] Gentlemen of the press: As you know, Libya's occupation of Chad dates back to 1973 in the Aouzou strip. [passage omitted] The Chadian Government has been making sacrifices not only to preserve its independence and its territorial integrity, but also to preserve the stability of the entire region. The eloquent and living proof of this confrontation, this sacrifice, is the presence of these Libyan prisoners that you see here. By presenting them to you and the entire world, we (?want to show) that we respect not only human rights, but also the international convention on prisoners of war, in contrast to Libya which defies these conventions by summarily executing Chadian prisoners of war. [passage omitted]

It is worth mentioning the return to Ndjamena of our brothers of the FAP, Goukouni's People's Armed Forces. We hope that all our countrymen will do the same so that together we can kick the Libyan troops out of our country, and ensure our economic development. (?By the way), our fight with Libya is not directed against the Libyan people, but against a regime that acts against the very aspirations of its own people, the Libyan people. We therefore appeal to the Libyan people and the Army to bring an end to this barbarous and [word indistinct] regime, for the well-being of the Chadian and Libyan peoples, and for the restoration and strengthening of long-standing ties.

Gentlemen of the national and international press, I present to you, for the benefit of world opinion, Libyan soldiers of the Libyan regular Army, of the Army that occupies Chadian territory. You may question them. Thank you. [end recording]

Communique Issued on Nigerian Official's Visit

AB281515 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Excerpts] The governor of Borno State returned to Maiduguri late this morning after a 5-day visit to Chad. Lieutenant Colonel Mumuni Aminu was seen off by Mbaibikel Ngarari, secretary of state for the interior and territorial administration, and several Chadian officials, including the prefect of the Lake Prefecture, Mahamat Ibrahimi, and the prefect of Chari-Baguirmi, Bamai Mahamadu Buka, and a crowd as large as the one that welcomed him on his arrival.

Major highlights of the last day of the visit of the Borno state governor to Chad include the visit at 1000 by Ibrahim Mahamat Itno, minister of interior and territorial administration, to the guest house for a final round of talks. The talks lasted about 1 hour. [passage omitted] At 1100 an official ceremony was held at Consular Hall to mark the end of the visit with the reading and signing of the French and English versions of the final communique followed by statements by the Chadian secretary of state of the interior and the governor of Borno State. [passage omitted]

The final communique was read by the research secretary of the Ministry of the Interior, (Baram Dosso):

[Begin (Dosso) recording] In the framework of historical and traditional ties existing between the people of Borno State, Federal Republic of Nigeria, and the Chari-Buguirmi and Lake Prefectures of the Republic of Chad, and at the invitation of Chad, a large Nigerian delegation led by the military governor of Borno State, Lt Col Abdul Mumuni Aminu, visited Chad from 23 to 27 November 1986 and held working sessions with a Chadian delegation led by Mahamat Ibrahimi, prefect of the Lake Prefecture.

The two delegations examined the following major issues: security and free movement on the border; management of joint brigades; periodic exchange of visits between Chadian and Nigerian administrative and military officials; cooperation between Maiduguri and Ndjamena; control of trade and transportation between Borno State and the Chari-Baguirmi and Lake Prefectures; exchange between technical, public health, animal husbandry, and agricultural services; cultural exchange and communication between Borno State and the Chari-Baguirmi and Lake Prefectures.

On security and free movement of persons between Borno State and the neighboring prefectures of Chad, the two delegations expressed their desire to link their mutual efforts to ensure peace and security in the zone. The two delegations agreed to inform their respective security forces of the need for moderation in the fulfillment of their duty. The Chadian delegation expressed its concern over the closure of the border between Nigeria and Chad, thus preventing free movement between the two countries. The Nigerian delegation assured the Chadian delegation that the border had been reopened a long time ago to any Chadian entering or leaving Nigeria with valid travel documents.

After reviewing the activities of joint brigades patrolling the demilitarized regions of Lake Chad, the two parties decided to do all in their power to improve the working conditions of the brigades. They called for the strict respect of the agreement on the creation of the joint brigades.

The two delegations also recommended periodic exchange of visits between the border administrative and military authorities of Borno State, Federal Republic of Nigeria, and of the Lake Prefecture, Republic of Chad. The two delegations noted that such exchanges can make it possible to directly solve certain local problems without referring them to their capitals beforehand.

The two delegations examined the situation of Chadian refugees in Nigeria. Following the request by Chad to the Federal Republic of Nigeria to help Chadian refugees to return home, the Nigerian delegation promised to forward this request to the competent federal authorities. The Nigerian delegation noted that the return of these refugees would take place in the framework of Nigerian laws and the relevant international law.

The two delegations called for closer cooperation between Ndjamena and Maiduguri. The Chadian delegation proposed the twinning of Maiduguri and Ndjamena. The Nigerian delegation, which accepted the idea, requested that the suggestion be put in writing to be forwarded to the competent authorities.

The Chadian delegation referred to the various agreements on trade relations and transportation between the two countries and expressed the hope that these agreements would be revised to take current economic financial factors into account. The Chadian delegation also called for the acceleration of the procedure for concluding the agreement on economic, scientific, and technical cooperation that is being negotiated by Nigeria and Chad. The Nigerian delegation noted these observations and promised to convey them to the Federal Military Government, which is the competent authority.

In view of the similarity of agricultural and livestock rearing problems in Borno State, Federal Republic of Nigeria, and the Lake Prefecture, Republic of Chad, the two parties agreed to harmonize their efforts in bird and locust control, rindepest, and the various [word indistinct] in the Lake Chad area.

To further strengthen the cultural ties between the two brotherly peoples of Borno State, Federal Republic of Nigeria, and the

Chari-Baguirmi and Lake Prefectures of the Republic of Chad, the two delegations agreed to organize the exchange of cultural troupes and to encourage sports competition.

At the end of the visit of the military governor of Borno State, head of the Nigerian delegation Lt Col Abdul Mumuni Aminu expressed his profound thanks to the prefect of Chari-Baguirmi, Bamai Mahamadu Bukar, for the warm welcome and the generous hospitality offered himself and members of his delegation during their visit to Chad.

Signed in Ndjamena on 27 November 1986 — the English and French texts being authenic — by the military governor of Borno State, Lt Col Abdul Mumuni Aminu and the prefect of the Lake Prefecture, Mahamat Ibrahimi. [passage omitted] [end recording]

BURKINA FASO

High-Level Malian Defense Delegation Arrives

AB282131 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] A high-ranking Malian delegation led by General Sekou Ly, minister of national defense, arrived in Ouagadougou this morning within the framework of the strengthening of good relations between the peoples of Burkina Faso and Mali. Gen Sekou Ly is accompanied by Lieutenant Colonel Ousmane Coulibaly, Army chief of staff; Lieutenant Colonel Sekou Konate, of the General Studies Division of the Armed Forces headquarters; Wing Captain (Brima Sirey Traore), deputy chief of staff of the Air Force; Captain Mahamane Toure, director of the national youth service; Captain Idrissa Traore, director of military sports; and Captain Mamadou Seydou Toure, chief of the Bureau of Instructions.

After passing in review a guard of honor mounted by an Army detachment, the Malian delegation, which was welcomed by the Burkinabe authorities, was later received by Major Jean-Baptiste Lingani in his office. It was there that Gen Sekou Ly spoke to reporters about the purpose of his delegation's visit:

[Begin Sekou recording] I came in response to an invitation of the Burkinabe people, and to President Sankara's invitation made through my brother and friend, Minister Jean-Baptiste Lingani. This visit is also in response to a historical fact. As you know, the Malian and Burkinabe peoples have a common history, a common geophysical environment. In short, both peoples have a common destiny. So it is a quite normal and common thing for a Malian to come to Burkina Faso, since we are brothers linked by history and geography, as I have already said.

But our visit here is also in response to the pure wish and desire of the Malian people and their president, General Moussa Traore, who has on several occasions asked us to visit our Burkinabe brothers so that together we can discuss our common problems, so that we can understand one another, so that together we can seek to build prosperous nations that are economically viable, nations that will be economically and socially linked. That is why we had the pleasure and honor to be selected by the people and the president of Mali to undertake this mission to our brothers and friends of Burkina Faso.

I believe we are bearers of messages from the Malian people to their Burkinabe brothers. The messages, as I have already said, are messages of friendship, messages of brotherhood calling on us to cultivate such friendship and brotherhood so that tomorrow, united like a single person, united like brothers, we can really build our countries in harmony and genuine friendship. [end recording]

Tomorrow, the Malian delegation to Ouagadougou will lay a wreath on the monument of the Flame of the Revolution. They will also hold a working session with the Ministry of People's Defense and attend cultural shows.

GHANA

Radio Criticizes Togolese 'Machinations'

AB281558 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Victor Markin commentary]

[Text] The OAU secretary general, Ide Oumarou, accompanied by a 5-man delegation arrived in the country last Tuesday to confer with the government on the situation in Togo out of the September uprising. During his meeting with the leader of the revolution, Ide Oumarou said among other things that the trip was a fact-finding one based on Togo's allegations of Ghana being involved in the uprising. This charge could have been treated with contempt that it deserves but the chairman rightly gave audience to the OAU secretary general and at the end no one was left in any doubt about the sincerity of the Government of Ghana to live in peace with all neighboring countries.

As a matter of fact, Ghana should have been the first country to ask for the services of Ide Oumarou, to stop the Togolese authorities from allowing Ghanaian dissidents from using Lome as a base for continuous military attacks on Ghana since the advent of the 31 December revolution, because it was a question of Togolese interference in the internal affairs of Ghana, and like the Togolese situation, of insiders versus Eyadema.

All the same, the presence of Mr Oumarou brought to the forefront the machinations of Togo against Ghana. Mr Oumarou should be able to defuse the tension and bring the two states together. He has to his credit the ambition to restructure the OAU by mobilizing a greater part of the membership to support his reform proposals. As the OAU secretary general, it is hoped he will receive all the necessary help from every quarter to enable him to succeed in his restructuring exercise. Mr Oumarou has to be cautious for his efforts to resolve conflicts involving African states, conflicts which have affected OAU deliberations on quite a number of occasions, for example the situation in Chad, the Western Saharan impasse, the Ethiopia-Somali conflict, and so on, not forgetting the situations in Angola, Mozambique, Namibia and South Africa.

Togo should be ashamed for calling the attention of the OAU secretary general to an internal uprising by its own citizens within its own borders when it had earlier on bypassed him and sought help from France, which readily dispatched its troops to Lome only to realize that they had no business in that country. To quote Chairman Rawlings when receiving the outgoing Liberian ambassador in Ghana on 26 September this year, and I quote: Nothing could be as simple on the part of governments as resorting to an outside power to protect them against their own people. It was understandable if the government resorted to an outside power because it was being threatened by a superpower. But where no such threat existed, such results were not necessary, unquote. African needs heads of state and administrators who are bold, courageous, and able to face issues in their correct perspective. No one needs a microscope in order to examine the situation in Togo. Allegations and suspicions would not take Africa anywhere. Examination and remedial process of domestic policies should be the aim and objective of any progressive head of state.

Further on Rawlings, Oumarou Discussions on Togo

AB272122 Accra Domestic Service in English
2000 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Our special correspondent who covered the meeting between the chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Flight Lieutenant J.J. Rawlings and the general secretary of the OAU, Ide Oumarou, at the Castle last Wednesday [26 November] has given an in-depth report on the meeting. He said the OAU secretary general explained that he was here in connection with unproven allegations by Togo that Ghana and Burkina Faso were involved in the events in Lome last September. Chairman Rawlings thanked Mr Oumarou for his efforts to determine the truth of the matter. He regretted that Captain Kojo Tsikata, who is in charge of national security, was not available to brief the secretary general and invited the secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, to do so. Dr Asamoah expressed the view that the whole affair was an internal Togolese problem. He said that if Ghana had any interest in overthrowing the government of President Eyadema, she could have easily done so long ago. He also regretted that Togo had not responded to any of Ghana's requests for relevant information on the allegations such as might have been shown to the secretary general when he had visited Togo.

In support of the remarks by the secretary for foreign affairs, the PNDC chairman said that Ghana feels insulted by the Togolese accusations. If Ghana really wanted to topple the Eyadema regime, she would not do it in such an amateurish manner as occurred in Togo last September. He stressed that the events that occurred in Togo were the result of the internal disenchantment with a regime which had divorced itself from the people, adding that it is necessary at all times to examine the root causes of events on the continent. Chairman Rawlings said that although we had no special love for the Amnesty International, we could not but endorse what that organization had written about the situation in Togolese prisons. In contrast, there was no single prisoner in Ghana in respect of whom concrete evidence of malfeasance could not be produced. [sentence as heard] He said that he is prepared to open the prison gates in Ghana for anyone who cares to see things for himself.

Returning to the subject of the root causes of events, the PNDC chairman recalled with deep regret the failure of the OAU to hold its 19th summit in Tripoli. In his view, that failure was a tragic reflection of Africa's inability to unite and control its own destiny. The events in Tripoli, continued the chairman, clearly demonstrated that Africa does not exist. The weakness that was demonstrated in Tripoli by Africa eventually forced Samora Machel to succumb to the Nkomati accord in April 1984. The chairman of the PNDC, however, expressed optimism about the people of southern Africa. He believes that because of their dedicated struggle for freedom and justice, they would eventually determine the future of Africa.

Continuing, Flight Lt Rawlings suggested that for Africa to truly exist, its leaders must be genuinely united, capable of readily rejecting any external manipulations. African leaders, he said, must be guided constantly by the spirit of justice and freedom. They must be aware of the attempts by external forces to divide Africa to their own advantage and they must forever strive for unity of purpose and African solidarity. He, however, regretted that some amongst us appear to have no understanding of the burning issues and plight of Africa. In the view of the chairman, the weakness of Africa is part of the weakness of the Third World in general and the Nonaligned Movement in particular.

Just as the weakness of the OAU encouraged South Africa to force Samora Machel to accept the Nkomati accord, he continued, the weakness and lack of unity of the Arab League led to the destruction of Lebanon. The chairman deplored this. And because the Nonaligned Movement was weak and incoherent, Grenada was invaded with impunity. The chairman deplored this too but rejected any suggestion that the imperialists were solely responsible for this.

Returning to Ghana-Togo relations, Flight Lt Rawlings said that several attempts had been made to destabilize the revolution. He noted that the Togolese regime had encouraged the smuggling of our diamond, gold, and cocoa and done great damage to our economy. Togo mined no gold or diamonds, he said, and yet she sold gold and diamonds. He stressed that if Ghana really wanted to damage Togo, she would have done so when she closed her border with Togo. The border would have remained closed indefinitely, but we didn't want to see the pangs of hunger afflicting our African brothers and sisters.

The chairman also advised the secretary general not to confine his contacts to heads of state but also to endeavor to reach out to the people and take their opinions and feelings.

In reply, the secretary general thanked the chairman for his advice and for showing understanding of his mission. He also expressed his endorsement of the chairman's analysis of events.

LIBERIA

Foreign Minister Returns From PRC, ROK

AB282204 Monrovia Domestic Service in English
2100 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Foreign Minister J. Bernard Blamo has returned home from a visit to the Republic of South Korea and the People's Republic of China. Minister Blamo disclosed during a press conference today that during his visit to South Korea, he delivered a special message from President Samuel Doe to Korean President Chon Tu-hwan, while in China he held bilateral talks with Chinese government officials. He said he also held discussions with Korean officials on plans for a Korean geological team to be sent to Liberia to assess the nation's mineral resources, adding: This was in line with our motives to mobilize investment resources for Liberia.

He also disclosed that following discussions with Korean officials, it was agreed that a team of experts will be sent to organize nucleus farms to help in the implementation of the Green Revolution program.

MALI

Russian Group Arrives for Cultural Week

AB282147 Bamako Domestic Service in French
2015 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Excerpt] A delegation of artistes from the Soviet Federated Socialist Republic of the Soviet Union arrived in Bamako this afternoon. The 26-member delegation including 24 artistes was welcomed at the Bamako-Senou Airport by the Mali-USSR Friendship Association led by its president, Mr Baye Mohamed, member of the BEC [Central Executive Bureau], and a group of Malian artistes. The Soviet delegation of artistes will participate in the USSR cultural week in Mali which will begin officially tomorrow at 2030 GMT at the Palace of Culture.

The highlights of this week include an exhibition of Soviet art, lectures on cultural cooperation between our two countries, and the consultations between Soviet and Malian cultural authorities. On his arrival at Bamako, the leader of the Soviet delegation, Mr (Temniko) expressed his joy in coming to Mali. He emphasized that the activities of the artistes constitute an eloquent testimony to the friendship between the Soviet and Malian peoples. [passage omitted]

NIGERIA

Cooperation With Brazil To Be Expanded

AB281345 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1200 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Nigeria and Brazil have agreed to promote efforts towards establishing joint ventures and programs on research and development. The two countries also agreed to explore new areas of cooperation, especially in the fields of agriculture, oil technology, tourism, transport, and aviation, as well as alternative energy sources.

This is contained in a joint communique on the Lagos talks between the minister of external affairs, Prof Bolaji Akinyemi, and the Brazilian foreign minister, Mr Roberto de Abreu Sodre. The ministers stressed the need to expand and diversify trade, economic, and technical cooperation between their two nations on a long-term basis. They suggested that important meetings should be held between top officials of the two countries for the consolidation and further development of bilateral ties. The ministers expressed satisfaction with the positive results of the Nigerian-Brazilian cultural exchange program. Brazil agreed to participate in any conference initiated by Nigeria to discuss the concept of medium powers in the near future.

The two countries expressed concern over the deterioration of the international scene and the threat to world peace and security. They condemned the unabated illegal occupation of Namibia by apartheid South Africa in defiance of decisions of the United Nations. Both sides reiterated their support for the people of Namibia in their struggle for total independence.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Interviewed on National Prospects

MB281613 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1245 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Interview with Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos by an unidentified "group of Italian journalists" in Luanda; date not given — recorded]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Reporter] Mr President, in the speech you made in Malanje [11 November 1986] you dealt with the theme of national reconciliation. However, the MPLA is opposed to any negotiations with UNITA. Mr President, what are you willing to (?concede) in order to attain peace in Angola?

[Dos Santos] When we say that we do not negotiate with UNITA, we do not mean that we are against national reconciliation. We do not regard negotiations with UNITA as a step toward national reconciliation. First, because we believe that there is unity among all the Angolan people around the government and the MPLA-Labor Party. There are a few citizens who have been deceived by leaders who, for various reasons, got involved with neocolonial powers. In this case few citizens could mean a few thousands of Angolans, but in a population of about 10 million inhabitants they form a very insignificant part of the population. So, when we say national reconciliation we mean mainly national harmony, that is, to rehabilitate all those citizens who, due to reasons such as obscurantism and unwittingness, have let themselves be deceived by false and fallacious propaganda from neocolonial powers, or by individuals who have betrayed their people.

So, in response to your question on what are we willing to do in order to have peace, we say that we are willing to pardon those Angolans who are involved in crimes of treason committed by the political and military ringleaders who got involved with South Africa and other powers that seek to neocolonize Angola. We have been practicing this policy since 1981 and have attained good results. It is a pity that you have been in Angola for such a short time and could not get in touch with many people, many citizens, including former Angolan National Liberation Front combatants who have been fully integrated in the Angolan society. Some of them have joined the armed forces.

So, we are a state — the People's Republic of Angola — with all the necessary institutions to rule the Angolan people. We control the national territory and the people, and we manage a strong economy. We are subject to acts of destabilization organized from abroad. UNITA is an instrument used by foreign forces that destabilize the People's Republic of Angola. Therefore, when people talk of negotiations, do you think it is legitimate for a state like ours — the People's Republic of Angola — to negotiate with a group of traitors [words indistinct] foreign powers to destroy the economy and terrorize the people? I think this is a question of principles. To accept such a policy means that we would be violating one of the principles that govern the international community, that is, accepting that any state can organize terrorist groups and give them weapons to destabilize another state and then demand this state to include that group in its government. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Eighty percent of Angola's economic relations and (83) percent of its trade exchanges are conducted with the West. However, your country is supported militarily and politically by Eastern countries, and Cuban soldiers protect oil wells operated by American companies. How can this paradox be explained?

[Dos Santos] For us, this is not a paradox. This is the most significant aspect of our policy of nonalignment and the policy of diversifying economic and trade relations. We find it strange that this policy is not properly understood by Western countries, particularly [words indistinct]. We have reaffirmed on a number of occasions that Angola is a country open to dialogue and to the establishment of cooperation and friendship on a basis of equality and mutal advantage.

[Reporter] Angola has been increasing its economic relations and cooperation with Europe, and the joining of the Lome Convention is the most recent example. Relations with Italy is another example, but in Italy there are a few people who oppose this policy. I would like to know if the same applies to [words indistinct].

[Dos Santos] As I said earlier, our decisions are made collectively. Naturally when we are in the process of making decisions everybody expresses his opinion. Some have different views, but we discuss the issues until we reach consensus. [Words indistinct] We (?joined) the Lome Convention as a result of this consensus existing in the main decision-making organs of the party and state.

We are a democratic and popular state. It is possible that some Angolans will not grasp the meaning of this policy. We do not exclude that possibility. However, the leadership of our party and government believes that this policy is suitable to the present phase of development of the People's Republic of Angola. The same applies to the country's cadres who implement this policy.

We believe that(?Europe) [words indistinct] historic links with Africa and in view of this it is quite familiar with the economic, financial and political situation of African countries. Western European countries have attained a higher phase of deveopment compared to African countries. By and large the African countries [words indistinct] have a great deal of virgin land and economic potential. However, they lack financial and human resources to exploit their wealth. So, on a basis of equality and mutual advantage [words indistinct] to find a model of cooperation that satisfies the interest of the African peoples.

We maintain economic relations not only with Western European countries, but also with South and North American countries. We also have economic relations with Asian countries and the socialist community. Therefore, we consistently apply the principle of diversification of economic relations between Angola and other countries. This comes of our view that in today's world it is not possible to do away with interdependence. I am sorry to say this, but often we (?notice) a certain degree of egoism and patronization from Western countries. Often they are rather insensitive to the extremely serious problems faced by the African peoples. There is famine in Africa. There is misery, disease, lack of drinking water, (?housing), and it is necessary to find ways of assistance and cooperation so as to enable the African peoples to solve most of the problems that Europe solves many years ago. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] After the experience with Nkomati and Lusaka Accords in 1984 and even taking into consideration that Angola has no borders with South Africa, would you be willing to have direct negotiations with Pretoria? The Frontline States are calling for sanctions against apartheid [words indistinct] preventive (?negotiations) by South Africa. What costs are you willing to pay to follow such a policy?

[Dos Santos] On the question of direct contacts with South Africa I could tell you that in the past we held direct talks with South Africa only to facilitate the solution to the Namibian question. So, in the framework of the solution of the Namibian issue, we would be willing to analyze any proposal likely to be presented to us because we think South Africa is very far from Angola. We do not have economic and financial relations with South Africa, and even if sanctions were applied against South Africa they would not in any way affect the People's Republic of Angola. We are one of the few Frontline States and SADCC nations with no economic links with (?South Africa). However, we support those countries who also call for the application of sanctions and are willing to suffer the consequences of such a (?policy). Furthermore, we also support all steps taken with the international community in order to mobilize efforts to bring about a programme aimed at reducing the impact of sanctions against South Africa on the Frontline States.

Whereas apartheid is a crime against humanity, we think that it is a duty of all countries of the world, particularly the Western European countries, to support the Frontline States which will suffer the nefarious consequences of the application of economic sanctions against South Africa. They know that the aim of sanctions against the apartheid system is to exert pressure on the apartheid regime so that it begins [words indistinct] political (?moves) toward the internal democratization of the country, and the dismantling of the apartheid system. So, we believe that (?Europe) should (?adhere to this movement) favorable to the application of sanctions against South Africa. There will be peace and calm in our region when in South Africa there is a democratic regime, elected by the South African people as a whole with no discrimination whatsoever.

[Reporter] What does Angola expect from the West [words indistinct] and what are [words indistinct] national reconciliation with UNITA?

[Dos Santos] From the West we expect the establishment of relations of cooperation and friendship on a basis of mutual respect and advantage. Accordingly, we have been working toward this goal by expanding our economic and political relations with various Western European nations.

Our policy is of national harmony, that is, the reintegration into Angolan society of all those who, due to the treason of their leaders, have been forced to move away from the right path. [passage omitted]

Rebels Claim Capture of Key Railway Town

AU280947 Paris AFP in English 0435 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Lisbon, Nov 28 (AFP) — South African and U.S.-backed Angolan anti-government rebels said Thursday they had retaken the town of Kamgumbe, in eastern Angola, enabling them to control movement along the Benguela railway, which normally links neighbouring Zaire to the sea. The rebel communique, received here, noted that the "Frontline" States were trying to reopen the railway. Kamgumbe was occupied by government forces in June.

MALAWI

Government Prepared To Assist Mozambique

MB281100 Johannesburg Television Service in English
1800 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Malawi is not intending to send a token military force into Mozambique to assist Frelimo, but is prepared to work hard at restoring normal relations between the two countries. Cliff Suanders spoke to Malawi's chief information officer in Lilongwe.

[Begin video recording] [Senior Information Officer Rapacicious Dzanjalimodzi] Malawi is prepared to assist Mozambique in any way possible to ensure the rehabilitation and development of Beira and Nacala railway lines. The question of internal security in Mozambique, or internal security in any country, is a sacred responsibility of any government. In fact, the late President Samora Machel, when he was here in Blantrye in September, he mentioned that he was not asking the Malawi Government to position troops in Mozambique. What he wanted was cooperation from this end in dealing with the security problem in that country. With that fact, and in the spirit of good neighborliness and brotherhood the Malawi Government agreed to the suggestion which was made by the Mozambican authorities, that there be established a joint security commission comprising Malawi and Mozambique, and the names of officials that are going to participate in that security commission from the Malawi side have already been (?submitted). It is hoped that that comission would explore ways and means, (?in which) Malawi, would participate in sorting out the problems in Mozambique without necessarily positioning its own troops.

[Saunders] The issue of refugees, or displaced people, as they are called, from Mozambique: Why are there so many in this country?

[Dzanjalimodzi] It's because the war in Mozambique has affected so many people. Therefore there are so many of them coming up here, when we ask them why are they coming, they say they are running for their lives.

[Saunders] Could these refugees possibly be RENAMO fighters posing as refugees?

[Dzanjalimodzi] Well, you have been in the country, we've given you all the freedom to go to all the places that you wanted, you have been to the camps where these people are, do you believe yourself that they are fighters? [end video recording]

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Flight Decoding 'Progressing Normally'

MB281233 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] The international commission of inquiry into the causes of the crash of President Samora Machel's plane continued its work in Moscow yesterday to decode one of the black boxes. The *Noticias* correspondent said yesterday that delegations from Mozambique, the USSR, and South Africa arrived in Moscow, the capital of the USSR, the day before yesterday. The three delegations comprising the international commission of inquiry were earlier in Zurich, Switzerland, where they listened to the plane's cockpit voice recorder. According to the correspondent, the work to decode the black box containing information of the flight instruments of the Tupolev-134 is progressing normally.

RSA Claims on Flight Disputed

MB291842 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 29 Nov 86

[AIM correspondent Paul Fauvet dispatch on "South African statements" on Machel's plane crash]

[Text] Latest South African explanation of why its air traffic control system did not warn the pilot of president Samora Machel's plane of danger was that the Tupolev-134 was flying below the radar's horizon. In other words, the plane had descended so low that it became invisible on the South African radar screens. The South African authorities probably made these comments in reply to a recent AIM article which explained in detail the sophistication of its radar system.

AIM's investigation of the capacity of South African radar is based almost exclusively on South African publications to which any South African journalist can have easy access. We can now prove, according to exceptionally well-informed South African sources, that the South African radar horizon does not seem to be very much above sea level. The South Africans have a radar system along the border that is specifically designed to detect planes flying at low altitude. Our source for this information is none other than South African Foreign Minister Roelof Botha, who publicly praised the system's capacity in March 1985. This is how the Johannesburg *Sunday Times* newspaper for 17 March 1985 quoted minister Botha: Botha said that South Africa had just placed a low altitude radar system along the border with Mozambique. It has been operational since 11 March. He said that this was done to detect planes flying at low altitude which the Mozambican authorities claim have been penetrating their airspace from South Africa without identification or filed flight plans.

During the first few days that the new system was in operation, three illegal flights were detected. One of the flights went from South Africa to Mozambique. Another left Swaziland for eastern Transvaal. The third, flying a zigzag pattern at low altitude was detected over Kruger Park before entering Mozambique, where it landed at Inhaca island, having returned over the same route. In other words, the South African radar system allows perfect visibility along the entire border areas where President Samora Machel's plane crashed. What is more, if Botha was able to confide that a plane had landed at Inhaca, a Mozambican island whose airport is almost at sea level, then this system has no problem with its horizon. When President Samora Machel's Tupolev crashed it was flying at 900 meters above sea level.

A few days after Botha's statement on planes flying at low altitude, South African Defence Minister General Magnus Malan declared the entire eastern Transvaal border a restricted zone closed to flights. He added that all additional technological means were being used to ensure its effectiveness. South African Air Force Chief Lieutenant General Denis Earp announced that all pilots needed official permission to overfly this area, which extends from the Limpopo River to the border with Swaziland. This includes the Mbuzini area where President Samora Machel died. Earp's statements were made public and broadly publicized by the South African pro-government newspaper, *The Citizen*, on 21 March 1985.

His statement included a detailed description of the restricted area. It said: The restricted area, 78 km west of the Limpopo River and extending from the northern to the southern borders of Kruger National Park, becomes part of the area promulgated under the terms of Law 79 of the Defense Act as a special and restricted area. The area covered is from Ressano Garcia south along the border between South African and Mozambique to that of Swaziland; from there west along the border between the Republic of South Africa and Swaziland; and finally from that area to eastern border along the railroad to Ressano Garcia. To obtain authorization to overfly this restricted area, the pilots must contact the South African Air Force headquarters. All aircraft with authorization or operating on the outskirts of this specific area are expected to establish radio contact with the government air traffic control stations on 119.0 megawatts. This was in the statement by General Earp.

Accordingly, President Samora Machel's Tupolev was overflying a special restricted area controlled by a radar system specialized to operate at low altitudes. Even then no radio contact was made to its crew. The conclusion is logical: The Tupolev never disappeared from the radar screens. It was visible until the time it crashed.

If the South African radar was able to identify Inhaca as the destination of one of the planes detected in March 1985, it could also identify Mbuzini as the area of the Tupolev's crash. Therefore, it does not make sense that it was not until about 10 hours after the crash, at 0560 the day after the crash, the South African authorities were able to send the first message to Mozambique informing it about the incident. What is more, the message gave an incorrect location for the crash, saying that it was in Natal when as a matter of fact it was in eastern Transvaal.

MNR Suspends Hostage Talks With Red Cross

MB281505 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1400 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Mozambican rebels have suspended their talks with the

International Red Cross for the release of 47 foreign captives. In a statement issued in Lisbon, the MNR has accused the Red Cross of what it terms making false promises and playing games and says the captives would be freed only after the rebels seize power. The prisoners include Portuguese, Pakistani, Italian, Mauritian, and Cape Verdian nationals. Some of them have been held for up to 16 months.

Claims of RSA Support for MNR 'Grossly Inflated'

MB300749 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 30 Nov 86 pp 1,2

["Exclusive" by Paul Moorcroft]

[Text] The Renamo guerrilla army — elusive but deadly challengers in the battle for Mozambique — have emerged from the shadows.

They control vast areas of the sprawling country east of South Africa. They claim they will be in Maputo within two years — in government.

They are ragged, but not hungry.

For the past two weeks I have ranged with the guerrilla forces across the war-ravaged northern and central Mozambican provinces of Sofala and Zambesia.

It was one of the rare occasions Renamo has allowed a foreign journalist into its rural strongholds.

As part of two-man TV team — the first ever to operate with Renamo — we tracked the leader of the guerrilla army, Afonso Dhlakama, to a base near his Gorongosa headquarters in central Mozambique.

It is impossible to know the full truth of a complex situation.

But the main points to strike us from interviews and an exhausting 15-day motor-cycle and canoe odyssey through the desolate countryside were:

— Frelimo claims of South African support for the rebels are either grossly inflated or untrue. We could find no recent evidence of large-scale logistical support from Pretoria among the rag-tag soldiery.

— Contrary to some reports, the guerrillas appeared disciplined, although lax in weapons training.

— Renamo has been able to build up an effective administrative structure in large parts of the country. We travelled openly by road and river for kilometres with no sign of government forces.

— Claims of massive Renamo bases in Malawi are suspect: We could find no evidence of such a support system.

— So secure are the rebels in their "liberated zones" that they pitch camps without bothering about sentries.

— Hopes now pinned on Zimbabwean troops to stem the rebel tide appear fruitless. Renamo guerrillas insist they run away — "just like the rest."

The journey came at a crucial time.

Renamo has promised to step up its attacks on Frelimo forces and has threatened to expand the war into Zimbabwe because of its support for Frelimo.

The crucial Beira rail and oil corridor — key to success or failure of the frontline sanctions campaign against South Africa — is now under continuous attack by the Renamo guerrillas.

Meanwhile, Mozambican and Zimbabwean troops would be deployed in an increasingly offensive role, and there was even speculation about a Zimbabwean-Mozambican federation to quash the rebels.

Renamo, for its part, has stepped up its attack on Maputo itself. This week guerrillas raided a consumer co-operative in Matola, a suburb of the city.

Reports that Frelimo will be able to mount a major counter-offensive should be viewed with caution.

We found little evidence of the Maputo Government's logistical ability to initiate such a thrust.

Afonso Dhlakama, the 33-year-old Renamo boss, appeared relaxed and confident when we finally caught up with him.

He vowed to win the war militarily within two years.

"Frelimo is finished," he said. "It is effective only in cities like Maputo, with its diplomatic missions and Ministries."

In the "liberated zones" we filmed peasant farmers reaping plentiful crops by subsistence methods.

The villagers and peasants, as far as we could see, appeared to welcome Renamo guerrillas as liberators from the collectivisation into which they had been forced by Frelimo's Marxists.

Renamo has also restored the traditional chiefs.

The "Povo" — peasantry — were very poorly dressed, but they weren't starving.

Despite Renamo's poor image — especially compared with, say, Angola's Unita — Dhlakama is optimistic.

He believes that Renamo "are not the desperate ones, because we have the support of the people."

"Frelimo are the desperate ones; they sit waiting at the docks for American relief."

He said his 22,000 regular troops were more than a match for both Zimbabwean and Frelimo forces, "although the helicopters are a problem."

He insisted that South African instructors had "never" been inside Mozambique.

His troops' lack of expertise was demonstrated by the fact that they had no idea how to operate eight SAM-7s recently captures in Tete province.

Afonso Dhlakama also said ANC guerrillas operated in the South. They were closely integrated into Frelimo bases, as a deterrent against SADF raids, he said.

We spent two days with the guerrilla chief, who appeared highly intelligent, although he did not appreciate the extent of his poor media image.

We encouraged him to release recently captured British, German and Portuguese nationals. We thought our arguments made an impression on him.

Imhambane Commander on 'Bandit' Activities

MB280945 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0400 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Major General Domingos Fondo, military commander of Imhambane Province, told AIM on Monday that strange, probably South African-related, movements had been detected along the coast between the districts of Inharrime and Jangamo in the South and between the northern districts of Vilanculos and Massinga. We think these movements were the result of submarine landings of bandit ringleaders, because submarines do not carry materiel, the military commander of the province of Inhambane said.

Domingos Fondo also said that South Africa has resorted to recruiting Mozambicans seeking work in the mines in order to infiltrate them back into Mozambique after they have been trained. When the miners go there, South Africans deceive them into thinking that they are going for a specialized course while the aim is to train them, Fondo stressed. He added that they then enter into Mozambique as miners when the truth is that they are bandits.

Domingos Fondo made this statement at the end of a visit to areas where the bandits carried out massacres over the past 2 weeks using old steel weapons [armed brancas: weapons such as knives, bayonets, etc] and generally surprising people at night. The military commander of the province of Inhambane also confirmed that because the bandits were at present losing fighting ground and their ability to respond to our armed forces' offensives in the province, they were murdering residents of village communes, including women, children, and old people, usually at night. By carrying out these actions, the bandits seek to intimidate the people into not supporting the armed forces, but they only increase the revulsion with which they are held.

Government Troops Kill 2 Whites, 80 Bandits

MB291409 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Two white men were killed by the FPLM forces when a group of armed bandits, of which they were a part, attacked Ulongue, the Angonia district headquarters, near the border with Malawi, on 8 November. Eyewitnesses who had been kidnapped by the armed bandits in that area of Tete Province told Radio Mozambique that they had seen four white men in similar uniform among the bandits. One of these white men spoke fluent Portuguese and the remaining three were identified by the civilians who managed to escape from the bandits as South African military.

During the operation, the FPLM forces also killed 80 bandits and wounded several others. According to witnesses interviewed by Radio Mozambique, the bandits took a large number of cattle into Malawi, where they sell every head of cattle for 10 kwacha which is about 500 meticals. Every head of cattle is sold for 15,000 to 20,000 meticals in Tete. The markets where cattle and other stolen products are sold are just inside the Malawian border with Mozambique.

Early this month, a Mozambican security source denounced the presence of seven South African commandos, who were directing armed bandit operations in Mutarara, which is in Tete Province. The source added at the time that the commandos were members of the South African commando reconnaissance group. During his last visit to Tete Province, President Samora Machel was told by Angonia District officials that Malawi had held contacts with the peasants of the area without the knowledge of Mozambican authorities.

NAMIBIA

Township Returns to Normal After Violence

MB010836 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0828 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Windhoek, Dec 1, SAPA — Peace returned to Katutura township outside Windhoek today following yesterday's unrest in which two people died and several were injured. SWAPO sources identified one of the dead as Mr Immanuel Shifidi, who was freed last year after serving 18 years on Robben Island.

Friends brought the body to hospital with several stab wounds and a head gunshot wound.

The other dead was an unidentified two-year-old child who was trampled to death by people running for shelter in nearby houses.

Reports said 21 people were admitted to hospital of whom seven were in serious condition.

Police said yesterday a scuffle broke out at an international year peace rally convened by SWAPO and the crowd soon became uncontrollable. SWAPO spokesmen said the fighting was started by a right-wing group of vigilantes who were trying to break up the meeting attended by about 2000 people.

Stones were thrown at police on the scene and reinforcements were summoned. They were armed with shotguns, teargas and rubber bullets and arrived in armoured casspir vehicles. Panic-stricken people scattered as police fired volleys of teargas, eyewitnesses said.

Considerable damage was done to vehicles parked at the vacant ground popularly known as "Ellis Park" where the meeting was held. Police said no arrests had been made and the situation had returned to normal.

SOUTH AFRICA

Indaba Outlines Scope of KwaZulu-Natal Proposals

MB281719 Johannasburg SAPA in English
1716 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Durban Nov 28 SAPA — Certain important functions would be excluded from the control of the proposed multi-racial government for Natal/KwaZulu, the Indaba said today. The Indaba's proposals would give wide powers and a high degree of autonomy of the new province, most of them already enjoyed by the existing KwaZulu government, a press release from the Indaba said.

Certain clearly defined functions would remain under central government. Among the functions which would be allocated to the provincial government were:

— revenue collection

— school education

— economic, social and financial planning

— health services, including social welfare agriculture, forestry, veterinary and conservation service, physical and land-use planning, including housing schemes and tourism

— local government (including tribal authorities).

-Among functions reserved for central government would be

— foreign affairs

— defence

— national intelligence

— police

— prisons

— posts and telecommunications

— railways and harbours

— tax

— customs and exicise

— water affairs

— labour union and arbitration matters

— trading licences in respect of mines,

— professions arms and ammunition the appointment and functions of the auditor-general.

The Indaba proposes that the provincial government be given authority over a "Natal regional force."

Certain police matters and certain aspects of the administration of justice, though these matters would have to be decided in consultation with the central government. [sentence as received]

The Indaba proposes that all laws applicable in Natal and KwaZulu at the time of commencement of the new constitution should remain in force until they were repealed by the competent authority. This could be the provincial legislature or the South African parliament.

The contitution should also contain a provision to deal with possible conflict where three sets of laws (parliamentary legislation, KwaZulu legislation and Natal provincial ordinance) apply to various parts of the same region and could overlap.

In respect of matters entrusted to the competency of the provincial legislature, it should have the power to amend or repeal any act of the South African parliament. No act of the South African parliament which deals with a matter entrusted to the legislative competency of the provincial legislature and made after the commencement of the new constitution should apply to Natal. The Natal legislature would have full powers to make laws for the province within the functions of government entrusted to it.

Universal Suffrage Envisioned

MB281804 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1803 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Durban Nov 28 SAPA — The Natal/KwaZulu Indaba today agreed on unprecedented proposals for the area to be governed by a multiracial legislature elected by "universal adult suffrage." The proposals also provided for the protection of minority rights under a bill of rights.

The Indaba, after eight months of discussion, decided by majority vote today on a new system of provincial government which would treat the region as a political unit with universal adult suffrage. The proposals were released tonight by the Indaba. Thirty-nine political and other groups from the region participated. The proposals provided for:

— a two-chamber legislature with wide powers;

— a provincial governor;

— a prime minister and 10-man cabinet;

— a bill of rights, an independent judicary and "cultural councils" to protect cultural rights.

The agreement would required the sanction of the central government before it could be implemented. It was envisaged that the proposals would first be put to the people of Natal and KwaZulu in a referendum. The agreement provides for a 100-member legislative chamber elected by universal adult suffrage through proportional representation. The percentage of the vote captured by any groups would be directly reflected in membership of the chamber. A 50-member second chamber, equally representing African, Afrikaans, Asian and English "background groups" as well as a South African group representing voters who preferred not to vote according to "background." [sentence as received]

The proposals envisaged a prime minister who would be responsible to the first chamber and a cabinet of 10. A governor would be appointed by the state president on the advice of the provincial legislature.

A bill of rights (as already published by the Indaba), would be constitutionally entrenched and enforceable against the governor and all organs of government at provincial level in Natal.

Cultural councils would protect and promote the cultural rights and interests of groups representing "the principle segments of the Natal population." The councils would be able to apply to the supreme court for judgment on the validity of certain legislation affecting language, religion and culture. Proportionally elected standing committees drawn from both chambers of the legislature would consider and amend legislation after first reading.

The existing system of local government in Natal would continue until changed, and would be gradually extended into KwaZulu. Traditional authorities in KwaZulu were to be treated as part of the local government. Provision was made for a council of chiefs.

PFP MP Discusses Program

MB290941 London BBC World Service in English
0709 GMT 29 Nov 86

[From the "24 Hours" program]

[Text] The negotiations in Natal for one-man-one-vote democracy have been under way for most of this year. The details just announced have agreed by representatives of all the racial groups, though the talks themselves didn't include antiapartheid groups sympathetic to the ANC or political parties from the right wing. The proposal is for a system of local government covering the people of both Natal and the black homeland of KwaZulu. But before it can be implemented, it has to be approved by a local referendum and by the South African Government in Pretoria. One of the negotiators was the leading Progressive Federal Party MP, Ray Swart, who's been telling Teddy Lemos about the agreement.

[Begin recording][Swart] I think that this can be a breakthrough, I think it represents a very broad cross section of Natal opinion across the board from blacks, whites, Asians, and what we call coloreds in South Africa. There certainly were groups to the left and right who were invited and didn't participate. But nonetheless, we've had a very good cross secion of groupings ranging from businessmen, industrialists, political parties, trade unions, and so on, and we have sat for 7 months. And we have now come out with something of a recommendation.

[Lemos] But the realities in the rest of the country are rather different to those in Natal. You are something of a special case, aren't you?

[Swart] Well, in some ways we are something of a special case, in that this has been an initiative which has been started partly by the Zulu nation, the government of KwaZulu. I think that that makes us different. But there is a great deal of interest, I think, around the rest of South Africa to see if we can really set the pace for them. And I would hope that this would be a pace-setting operation.

[Lemos] How do you view the prospect of Natal being run by a government under a black leader, which will be the inevitable outcome if your proposals do get accepted?

[Swart] This is no problem at all, I think that the majority of people in Natal recognize that we are in a province where 80 percent of the population happen to be black people. I think that we have learned to live together for generations, and I don't think there is a problem and what we have been trying to assemble here is a constitution which will allow this to operate, so that all groups can be properly accommodated.

[Lemos] I think that most people in most parts of the world would accept what you're saying as being perfect common sense, but we are talking about South Africa where that has not been the case.

[Swart] No, this is true, but I think South Africa is beginning to learn and we ourselves in the PFP have been part of the learning of the teaching process because we have advocated the need for people to get together, to get around the table to talk, to negotiate, and obviously to talk is far better than to fight.

[Lemos] How strongly do you all, the ones who are around this negotiating table, who took part in this Indaba, how strongly do you believe in what you have (?agreed to)? Are you for example, prepared to begin to entertain the idea of separating from the rest South Africa, to have your way?

[Swart] Well, that isn't really the process of the Indaba. Don't forget that the Indaba is centered around second-tier government, so it is not a UDI operation. It's a situation where we are dealing with extended powers at a provincial or state level, but nonetheless if we can achieve nonracial democratic government at state level, I think this must obviously have an impact on South Africa as a whole. [end recording]

Stoffel Botha Rejects Proposals

MB302019 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1955 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Nov 30, SAPA — Mr Stoffel Botha, the leader of the National Party in Natal has rejected the constitutional proposals put forward by the Natal-KwaZulu Indaba. Mr Botha, who is also minister of home affairs, said the proposals, if implemented, would lead to domination, SATV news reported. He said in a statement from Pretoria that, although the proposals attempted to accommodate minority rights, the end result would be a one-man, one-vote, majority system.

He said the proposals would create mechanisms solely for the protection of the cultural interests of groups, SABC radio new reported. He said there was no mention of effective equal power-sharing.

Mr Botha said that, in contrast to the aims of the National Party, the implementation of the Indaba's proposals would lead to "total domination." He said that, according to the Inaba's model, it was clear a majority party would effectively exercise sole power in the legislative and executive authority, as was the case in a typical Westminster system.

Mr Botha said the Indaba was informative and provided valuable lessons for future development. Mr Botha said it was accepted the proposals would be formally put before the government.

The NP, which had observer status at the Indaba, could not associate itself with the model of the Indaba, he said. The model did not comply with certain of the principles of the NP's general constitutional structure. These were its requirements that on provincial or regional level, the structure had to contain elements of democracy and allow all to take part in the process of government, as well as structures making provision for equal power-sharing without domination by one group of another. He stressed the NP was committed to reform whereby the unequal prejudice to residents of Natal and Kwazulu on the basis of race and colour was eradicated. The party was bound to the development of structures where everyone in the region could participate in regional issues.

PFP Condemns Botha Rejection

MB302020 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1915 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Durban, Nov 30, SAPA — The government had ruined its chances of starting constitutional negotiations in South Africa by its rejection of the Natal-Kwazulu Indaba, the Progressive Federal Party [PFP] said tonight. The national chairman of the party, Mr Peter Gastrow, was reacting in a statement released in Durban to comment on the Indaba by the minister of home affairs, Mr Stoffel Botha.

Mr Botha told SATV the Indaba's proposed legislative authority for Natal amounted to a one-man, one vote system and that this was rejected by the government. Mr Gastrow said Mr Botha's statement was "a reaction from Bigots who seem to have a death wish for South Africa." Mr Botha's statement was an insult to the people of Natal and made "asses" of moderates who sought negotiated and peaceful change. "The government now has no possible chance to get any negotiations going," Mr Gastrow said. "As a result, confrontation will probably form the pattern of politics in future."

New Ministers Sworn In At Pretoria Ceremony

MB010811 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0805 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 1, SAPA — Two new cabinet ministers and 12 deputies were sworn in this morning by the judge president of the Transvaal at a brief ceremony at the presidential guest house in Pretoria. Mr Alwyn Schlebusch, former vice president and chairman of the President's Council, and now minister in the office of the state president, and the new minister of law and order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, took the oath first, before Mr Justice H.H. Moll.

The state president, Mr P.W. Botha, announced a major cabinet reshuffle on November 4, which he said would take effect today. The cabinet now consists of Mr Botha and 18 ministers, while there are now a total of 19 deputy ministers.

The 12 new deputy ministers sworn in today are Mr Myburgh Streicher (Transport), Mr Hendrik Tempel (development aid), Mr Roelf Meyer (law and order), Dr Michael Veldsman (national health), Mr George Bartlett (economic affairs and technology), Dr Org Marais (finance), Mr Wynand Breytenbach (defence), Mr Japie van Wyk (water affairs) Dr A. "Kraai" van Niekerk (agriculture), Dr Stoffel van der Merwe (information) and Dr Theo Alant (economic affairs and technology).

After the ceremony, which lasted about 10 minutes, the new cabinet ministers, deputies and their wives gathered on the lawns of the presidency to pose for official photographs and a small contingent of South African newsmen.

Migration Loss of 11,000 Over First 9 Months

MB290502 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English
28 Nov 86 P 1

[By Gerald Reilly]

[Text] The talent drain is accelerating as the sanctions net tightens and political problems remain unresolved.

Economists say this is clear from the latest migration figures issued in Pretoria yesterday by Central Statistical Services. These show a migration loss of more than 11,000 for the first nine months of the year compared with the same period last year.

Between January and September, 10,767 left the country to settle elsewhere and there were 5,355 immigrants — a loss of 5,412.

Last year in the same period there were 8,380 emigrants and 14,276 immigrants — a gain of 5,896.

In September, the number who emigrated was almost double the immigrant total — 1,024 as opposed to 547.

Professional and technical workers who left the country in the nine months totalled 1,797 (1,193 in January-September last year). Among them were 366 engineers (349), 76 medical doctors and dentists (495, 224 accountants (96), 221 educationists (96), and 910 "others" (603).

Particularly disturbing, economists pointed out, were the large number of accountants pulling out.

They were the material for top management posts in commerce and industry, and their loss would have serious economic consequences in the long term.

Emigrants continue to favour the UK and Australia.

Of the 1,024 who left the country in September, 424 went to Britain, 44 to the US, 324 to Australia, 44 to Zimbabwe and 32 to Canada.

8,000 Children Detained Under State of Emergency

MB270556 Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English
25 Nov 86 p 3

["'Up to 8,000' Child Detainees"]

[Text] Port Elizabeth - Up to 8,000 children - some below the age of nine - have been detained under the State of Emergency, according to latest figures released by the Detainee Parents Support Committee (DPSC).

The figure represents 40 percent of the 20,000 detained since the Declaration of the Emergency, a DPSC spokesman said yesterday.

The spokesman said that while most children were between the ages of nine and 18, there had been some cases of children as young as five in detention.

"And in some instances, a whole family has been detained, including children of very young ages."

In the Port Elizabeth [PE]/Uitenhage area, 284 chidren have been detained since the state of emergency, according to figures obtained from cases reported to the PE Crisis Information Centre, the Black Sash Advice Office, Legal Resources Centre and individual attorneys.

A spokesman from the Black Sash said this number was grossly under-estimated. Many cases had been recorded without the ages of the detainees and many detentions had not been reported at all.

While it was not known where these 284 children were being held, 275 children from all over the Eastern Cape were reported to be in St Albans prison in PE.

He said children were not give special treatment in detention, but were treated in the same manner as other detainees. Visits by parents were not an automatic right.

Approached for comment a spokesman for the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Louis le Grange, said details of children in detention were "not at his fingertips," and queries should be directed to the head of the security police.

Attempts to reach the head of the security police failed as he was unavailable for comment.

Information Bureau Changes Soweto Incident Account

MB290545 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0500 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] The Bureau for Information has changed its story regarding the Mofolo Park shack removals in Soweto. The bureau initially said the squatter shacks were demolished by residents, which led to violent confrontations between the two factions. Witnesses at the scene denied this, saying municipal workers tore down the structures. The bureau is now saying the clearing of the area was undertaken on the instruction of the Soweto Housing Council.

'Huge Wall' Around Soweto Under Construction

MB300756 Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English
30 Nov 86 p 2

[By Jon Qwelane]

[Text] A huge wall built of sturdy concrete pillars is springing up around Soweto and will probably cut the sprawling township off from the rest of Johannesburg once completed.

Already the townships of KwaZakhele, New Brighton and Zwide in Port Elizabeth have been fenced off by barbed wire and entry to the black residential areas is only possible through certain points which are manned by the security forces.

And the seemingly permanent security check-points at entrances to Alexandra township north of Johannesburg have also sparked fears that the settlement could be fenced off from the white residential and business areas surrounding it.

No official has answered questions on whether the erection of Soweto's "Berlin Wall," coupled with the fences in Port Elizabeth, means the rest of South Africa's black townships will also be fenced in.

There has been no official comment on the situation in Alexandra: telexes were dispatched to the Bureau for Information and the Department of Constitutional Development and Planning, but there was no answer.

Soweto town clerk Mr Nico Malan was not available to comment on the structure, nor was the chairman of the council's management committee, Mr Letsatsi Radebe.

According to Protea Police Headquarters in Soweto, the wall is being erected for "safety reasons" but has nothing to do with security or defence.

The police said the wall was being erected by the Department of Transport.

The structure's starting point is near the Diepkloof men's hostel just opposite the Doornkop military base and extends along Randskou Road.

Workmen at the site say they were told the wall was to enclose the township, but they would not say why.

They did not know who was funding the erection.

— The Progressive Federal Party MP for Houghton, Mrs Helen Suzman, said that if the intention was to enclose Soweto, the idea was "grotesque."

"It can't do any good towards restoring normality to the situation, and I think will only add to the tension that already exists.

"I hope there is no truth in it. Anything that restricts the free movement of people and interferes with normal relationships is thoroughly bad."

— Yesterday senior officials of the Department of Transport — the Minister, Mr Hendrik Schoeman, and his personal secretary, Mr S.J. van Blommestein and the Director-General, Mr A.B. Eksteeen — could not be reached to comment on whether their department was responsible for the Soweto wall.

Police Fire Teargas at 'Rioting' Soweto Mourners

MB300915 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0900 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Police have fired teargas at mourners attending the funeral of a Soweto Students Congress [SSC] member. The Bureau for Information has confirmed teargas was fired at Madona Dlamini's funeral, saying police had to take action as the crowd was rioting. The 19-year-old SSC member died on Monday. He was shot dead by a group of people allegedly belonging to a rival group. According to some of the 4,000 mourners, police stopped some vehicles at the gate of the cemetery and chased mourners away because the vehicles were overloaded. They then fired teargas.

DPSC Releases Report on Detained Children

MB271929 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1500 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] A new report estimates say more than 4,000 children in detention under emergency regulations in South Africa. The report, compiled by the detainees parents support committee [DPSC] and others, was released this afternoon. It says almost 60 percent of children detained are under 16 with the youngest being 1 month old. It says these figures are based on official reports which it says are not always accurate. David O'Sullivan reports.

The human rights monitors accused the South African Government of declaring war on black youths. DPSC spokesman Max Coleman described the detention of children as something unparallelled in history. The 210 page report, entitled "Children Under Repression," describes young blacks as the foot soldiers of the struggle. The organization gives three reasons why children are being detained: to obtain confessions, true or not, about an instance of township violence or about others and to strike fear and terror into the hearts of young detainees. The report also contains medical evidence on the maltreatment of detainees. A panel of doctors from the national, medical, and dental association examined over 500 released detainees. They found 93 percent complained of physical abuse or injury at the hands of the security forces and a full 95 percent showed signs of posttraumatic shock syndrome.

Government Amends Regulation on Indoor Meetings

MB281437 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1427 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Pretoria Nov 28 SAPA — An amendment to the emergency regulations was published in the *Government Gazette* in Pretoria today which enables police to ban indoor gatherings, making it unnecessary to obtain a magisterial order as previously required. A lengthy subregulation inserted into Regulation 7 enables police commissioners to ban or clamp extensive conditions on "any gathering." According to legal opinion the proclamation, and the concise tone of four other amendments published today, "show that the state of emergency is certainly not dead." The other amendments entail technicalities and appear to have little practical effect.

Tutu Calls for Stayaways by Nurses, Doctors

MB271822 Dakar PANA in English 1700 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Johannesburg, 27 Nov (ANO/PANA) — The time has come for the oppressed masses of South Africa to set their own programme of action for their liberation, archbishop of Cape Town, the most reverend Desmond Tutu told a National African Federated Chamber of Commerce (NAFCOC) Transvaal convention today. He said the black people of white ruled South Africa can no longer look to the oppressors for their own liberation. We now have to demand and tell Pretoria that by a specific date Nelson Mandela and all political prisoners and detainees should be freed, the state of emergency must be uplifted, children in detention — countrywide — must also be out of prison, and all our other rights must be met, Archbishop Tutu said. If we expect the oppressors to set the programme for our liberation for us, we are wasting our time. The people who are oppressing us are human beings like us and there is nothing extraordinary about them, he said, adding that we don't have to beg them for our freedom — we must demand it.

Archbishop Tutu also called for an extraordinary type of stayaway that will include nurses, doctors and priests, personnel traditionally exempt from stayaway and boycott participation to render the economy to a standstill, he said. Bishop Tutu said consumer boycotts and stayaways in South Africa have proved to be very effective in demonstrating the black man's capabilities and have even caused multinational companies in the country to pull out. This all, he said, was aimed at pumping sense into the minds of an intransigent regime.

He said multinationals have supported the apartheid regime for a long time at the expence of black liberties and freedom. Today they must also lift up their hands to be counted in a relentless struggle by the masses to free themselves, he said. This the multinationals must do meaningfully or else they will be charged with treachery to the people's cause, Bishop Tutu concluded. The two-day confeence is taking place in a climate of confrontation in South Africa because of thousands of black people who are in detention under the state of emergency regulation.

Teargassing of Hunger Strikers Confirmed

MB291203 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1157 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Cape Town, Nov 29, SAPA — Detainees in Victor Verster Prison outside Paarl were teargassed twice this week, the SA Prisons Service confirmed yesterday. The Prisons Department were approached for comment after Mr Wilmot Heyana of Guguletu alleged that his son, a matric pupil at Sizamile Senior Secondary School, was teargassed on Monday and Tuesday, along with 16 other detainees who began a hunger strike.

Yesterday a liaison officer for the Prisons Service, Colonel D. J. Immelman, denied that the teargas was fired in response to the hunger strike. "Teargas had to be used on two occasions after the detainees committed acts of violence and threatened the safety of the staff and the good order in prison."

Mr Heyana said his son has been in detention since June 15 this year and was a member of the Cape Youth Congress. He has not written matric examinations this year as a result of his detention.

Colonel Immelman said: "It does happen from time to time that detainees go on so-called hunger strikes either on their own or by instigation from outside. These hunger strikes are a calculated effort to obtain maximum publicity and propaganda.

"Detainees who refuse to eat are provided with three meals per day, and they are treated strictly in accordance with the internationally accepted guidelines pertaining to the handling of those persons as is embraced in the Tokyo declaration."

'Psychological Warfare' Will Be Overcome

MB290903 Johannesburg International Service
in English 0630 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Station commentary: "Disinvestment and Psychological Warfare"]

[Text] The withdrawal from South Africa of the British company Barclays, has been a signal for intensified psychological warfare against South Africa. Political activists immediately announced their intention of targeting other major British companies that have links with South Africa. There was even talk of a hit list of companies, which would be pressurized into withdrawing from South Africa. British newspapers were in the forefront in stirring up speculation and rumors.

All this is calculated, so the activists hope, to sow despondency and despair among South Africans. There is good reason for psychological warfare playing such a prominent role in the political activists' vendetta against South Africa. They are well aware of the fact that South Africa has a strong and resilient economy and, in a regional context, an immense economy. They also know that when a massive psychological campaign, similar to that being waged today, was launched against South Africa in the early 1960's following the tragedy of Sharpeville and South Africa's withdrawal from the British Commonwealth, the South African economy would not buckle under pressure. On the contrary, the South African economy staged a remarkable comeback that ushered in a period of unprecedented growth and progress which was of enormous benefit to all South Africans and to millions of people throughout southern Africa.

There is no reason to belief that this performance will not be repeated in the closing years of the 1980's. Indeed, where there has already been disinvestment, the reaction from politicians, big business, and the public at large shows that South Africans have the tenacity, ingenuity, and commitment to defeat the psychological attack and with the economic war.

Resolve to Resist 'Psychological Attack' Noted

MB010526 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] Following the withdrawal from South Africa of the British bank, Barclays, political activists are reported to be turning their attention to other major British companies. There is even talk of a hit list of companies that will be pressurized to withdraw from South Africa.

This conforms with the tactics used in the disinvestment campaign to target high profile companies through demonstrations at their offices, protests at their annual meetings, and boycotts of their services. The higher the company's profile, the greater the publicity value for the activists, and this is why Barclays was singled out in the past and why new targets amongst high profile companies in Britain are now being sought.

But there is more to it than that. Psychological warfare is an integral part of the economic war now being waged against this country. Disinvestment by low profile companies is hardly noticed, but disinvestment by General Motors or Barclays or Kodak will — so the political activists hope — have the effect of causing despondency in South Africa.

Thus it is that after last week's announcement by Barclays there was an immediate flood of speculation on further imminent withdrawals. One British newspaper, *The Independent*, said the Barclays move could prompt a chain reaction of withdrawals, a second, *The Guardian*, said fears had been raised of a domino effect among European companies, especially in Britain, and yet another newspaper, *The Daily Telegraph*, wrote of financial circles buzzing with rumors about further withdrawals.

It is significant that in the psychological war emphasis is placed on so-called moral reasons for economic action against South Africa. Not much attention is given, however, to the fact that certain sanctions moves will boost the profits of companies in the countries taking sanctions actions, or the fact that a major American Corporation left South Africa at a time when its business performance worldwide was declining, or that the disinvestment by General Motors coincided with the closing of some General Motors plants in the United States.

There is good reason for psychological warfare playing a prominent part in the overall economic war against South Africa. The Republic has a strong and resilient economy that overcame a massive psychological attack as well as pessimism amongst certain local circles to stage a remarkable comeback that ushered in a period of unprecedented growth and progress. There is no reason to believe that this performance cannot be repeated in the closing years of the 1980's. Where there has already been disinvestment, the reaction — from public representatives, from the business community, and from the public at large — shows that South Africans have the tenacity, ingenuity and commitment to defeat the psychological attack and win the economic war.

Le Grange: Police Force To Increase 60 Percent

MB290945 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0900 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] South Africa's police force is to increase even more. Outgoing Minister of Law and Order Louis Le Grange says the police force is to be extended by 60 percent, an increase of 40,000 officers. Mr le Grange says at its present strength the SAP cannot cope with the ever increasing work load. He put down the sharp rise in crime to rapid population growth, unrest, the economic recession, and unemployment as reasons for the increase.

Nuclear Waste Reaches Destination Safely

MB281449 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1415 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Cape Town Nov 28 SAPA — The third load of nuclear waste from the Koeberg plant arrived at Vaalputs today after a second truck was despatched from Cape Town yesterday after a small crack was discovered in the chassis of the trailer carrying the load of four concrete drums of intermediate level waste and 16 steel drums of low level waste.

Mr Andre van Heerden, Western Cape public relations manager of ESCOM [Electricity Supply Commission] said today the small crack in the chassis was discovered during a routine inspection when the trailer pulled off the road at Klawer. Rather than continue the driver acted in accordance with the laid down procedure and a second trailer was despatched. The load was split in two and the second trailer made two trips to Vaalputs to deposit the load. Both trailers will return to Cape Town today.

Information Bureau Releases Unrest Reports

29 Nov Unrest Report

MB290936 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0932 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Pretoria, Nov 29, SAPA — Herewith the Bureau for Information's unrest report for the period 6am yesterday to 6am today. "Few incidents occurred and very little damage was reported during this period.

"More than 90 per cent of the incidents that occurred were stone throwing incidents. Most of these occurred in Soweto.

"At 1800 hours yesterday, plus-minus 50 black people stoned a crowded vehicle in Soweto. Two white people, Mr Raath and Mr Z. Saboxtang, no address available, were seriously injured. After the incident occurred, the two men were dragged out of their vehicle and were attacked by the black people. They were admitted to the Baragwanath Hospital.

"At Klipspruit, also in Soweto, a delivery vehicle with milk was robbed by a group of black people. No police action was taken.

"At Makubeni (Umkomaas), a group of black people threw an F1 hand grenade at the private home of the mayor, Mr Mncabe. Two AK shots were also fired. Mr Mncabe was slightly injured — a light shrapnel wound on his head. No police action was taken."

Ends report

30 Nov Unrest Report

MB300946 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0943 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Pretoria, Nov 30, SAPA — The following is the Bureau for Information, Pretoria's, unrest situation report from 6h00 November 29 to 6h00 today:

"Only six incidents occurred during this period.

"At the Old Middleburg township, Cape Province, about 15 blacks threw stones at a member of the security force. Police fired six rounds with a triple a shotgun. A 20-year-old black man, Mr Sphitliphithi Qatana, of the Old Middleburg township was fatally wounded. Two black men were slightly injured. No arrests were made.

"In Zola, Soweto, 40 black men drove their bus against the private home of Councillor John Khumalo. They fired an unknown number of shots from an unknown calibre weapon on two security guards at the house. Two members of the security forces fired nine rounds from a triple a shotgun. There were no casualties.

"At Duncan Village, East London, an unknown groups of blacks set a private vehicle on fire. At Thembisa, a group of blacks tried to set a bus on fire, little damage was done."

1 Dec Unrest Report

MB010913 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0909 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 1, SAPA — The Bureau for Information's situation report for the 24 hours to 6am today:

"Very few unrest related incidents were reported during the above 24-hour period.

"At Orlando Stadium (Soweto) yesterday, stones were thrown at security forces from a crowd leaving the stadium after after a music concert. The security forces retaliated with tearsmoke. No injuries or arrests were reported.

"In KwaMakhuta (Amanzimtoti) this morning, unknown black persons threw a petrol bomb at a private home. Two black boys, a 4-year-old and a 14-year-old, as well as a 14-year-old black girl, received slight burn wounds. Considerable damage was caused to the house. No arrests were made. Police investigations continue."

WEEKLY MAIL 28 Nov-4 Dec 'Apartheid Barometer'

MB290905 Johannesburg THE WEEKLY MAIL in English 28 Nov-4 Dec 86 p 4

["Apartheid Barometer"]

[Excerpts] **Emergency Detentions**

Today is the 170th day of the current State of Emergency. The number and names of all those detained under the Emergency regulations have not been released by the government. According to the Detainees Parents' Support Committee [DPSC], at least 20,000 people had been detained under the current Emergency regulations by the end of last month. The Progressive Federal Party's Missing Persons Bureau estimates that up to 24,000 people have been detained so far.

Detention of Children

About 8,000 children have been detained under the Emergency regulations, according to the DPSC. While most of the children are between nine and 18 years old, the DPSC said that many were below nine years old and some were as young as five.

At the recent PFP Federal Congress, Beverly Roos of the Groote Schuur constituency quoted from a University of Cape Town report which stated that 2,186 people under the age of 16 had been detained since the Emergency was declared. She said that 201 children had been killed and 571 injured in this period. Brian Bamford, MP for Groote Schuur, said there was evidence that children were being kept in cells containing up to 40 people and that children were being kept with adults in the same cell. He said at least 40 percent of people detained were under the age of 19 years.

Debt Figures

A total of 235,212 people received debt summonses between June and August this year while 122,488 people received civil judgements for debt.

Emergency Deaths

According to figures released by the government's Bureau for Information, 335 people died in unrest during the first 158 days of the State of Emergency. This figure does not include deaths in the "independent homelands."

Hangings

Seven people convicted of murder were hanged in Pretoria Central Prison last week, bringing to 106 the number of people hanged this year. The total numebr of people hanged in South Africa (outside of the "independent homelands") since 1978 is 1,038.

Unemployment

The number of white, coloured and Indian unemployed rose from under 30,000 at the end of 1983 to 81,000 in July this year, according to figures published in the United Building Society's Economic Monitor.

Education

According to the Minister of Education and Development aid, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, in 1985 there were six million black students at school, compared with one million whites, 800,000 coloureds and 234,000 Indians. The six million total was made up of 1.7-million under the Department of Education and Training, 2.4-million in "self-governing territories" and 1.8-million in "independent homelands."

He said there were over one million black children of schoolgoing age not attending school in a given year. He said nearly 18,000 out of a possible 92,000 black candidates had not written their matric exams last year as a result of the boycott and that 250-300 black schools were currently seriously affected by the boycott.

Prisoner of Conscience

Elias Motsoaledi, former African National Congress, SACTU [South African Congress of Trade Unions]and Communist Party activist, is one of the Rivonia trialists serving a life sentence on Robben Island.

Motsoaledi first became politically active as a factory worker in Johannesburg in the early 1940s. He joined the Leather Workers Union and in the late Forties he served as an executive member of the Committee of Non-European Trade Unions (CNETU). During this period he also joined the ANC and the Communist Party of South Africa. In 1952, shortly after the Defiance Campaign, he was banned but nevertheless remained politically active.

In 1955 he was one of the trade union leaders who helped initiate the South African Congress of Trade Unions (SACTU). When the State of Emergency was declared in 1960, Motsoaledi was detained for four months. Shortly after his release he went underground and served on the Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation; ANC military wing] Johannesburg Regional Command. He assisted in hiding recruits, sending them abroad for military training and procuring armaments. He was arrested at Rivonia in July 1963 and sentenced to life imprisonment the following year. During the trial his wife was detained under the 90-day detention law.

Motsoaledi, who is in his early sixties, has spent 24 years of his life behind bars for his political beliefs and activities. He has seven children.

Banned Books, Publications and Objects

Banned for Importation and Distribution:

Apartheid Cannot be Reformed (United Nations Centre Against Apartheid); New Perspectives Vol 16 5/1986 (Information Centre of the World Peace Council, Helsinki); Black History and the Class Struggle No 2 and Woman and Revolution No 31 Spring 196 (Spartacist Publishing House, New York); TUC [Trade Unions Congress] Special Focus on South Africa (TUC Congress House, London); Socialist Worker No 109 18 October 1986 (Larkham Printers and Publishers, London) [passage omitted]

Banned for possession:

SACP Fighting in the Frontline for National Liberation, Socialism, Peace (Not stated); SACP 1921-1986 for Freedom, Peace, Socialism — poster (Not stated); Workers to the Front — poster (Not stated); We March to Freedom — poster (Not stated); Africa Our Africa Land, Freedom, Education (not stated); One Oppressor, One Bullet (Not stated); SWAPO Information Bulletin (SWAPO Dept of Information, Luanda, Angola); 1986 June 16th Ten Years Later The Struggle ... Continues (Wectu Western Cape Teachers Union], Cape Town); Cape Youth Congress June 16th Youth Day (Cape Youth Congress Cape Town); The Child Is Not Dead (compiled by Ann Harries, Roger Diski, Alaskair Brown); Exit To Eden (Anne Rampling).

Press Comments on Current Problems, Issues

28 November Press Review

MB280836 [Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN on U.S. Supply of Arms to Iran

The page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 27 November comments on the "Iranian arms affair" saying "the contretemps in which President Reagan finds himself not only reflects on his integrity, but also places in danger his party's ability to ensure that he is followed in office by another Republican President," and "it is absolutely vital that a Republican President be elected in two years' time. For the Democrats, with Senator Edward Kennedy and his liberal colleagues in full cry, are totally opposed to South Africa, they have total control of both the House of Representatives and the Senate, and if they have a Democratic Incumbent in the White House, our problems will be immeasurably increased."

THE STAR on Group Areas Act

"If the Government cannot yet bring itself to scrap the Group Areas Act, it could salvage a little credit for itself by allowing an official 'grey area' in District six. The former colored suburb bordering central Cape Town has become a massive symbol of the wrongs done to a community." *The Star* believes that District Six became "more slummy precisely because of official policy and the uncertainties that resulted from it." "The Group Areas Act is a dead letter. It is crumbling in most of the country's cities because of socio-political dynamics and because only a minority of South Africans want such a law." The paper says President Botha would "gain credit for himself if he kept pace with history instead of trying to fight it back."

RSA Foreign Relations Worsen

The same page carries an edited version of the speech made by PFP MP David Dalling at the annual meeting of the Witwatersrand branch of the South African Institute of International Affairs. Dalling says "it is undeniable that the domestic policies and actions of the National Party have had — and are having — a critical effect on our international relations. This is particularly so more recently within the context of sanctions and disinvestment." Dalling believes that "only fundamental political and constitutional reform will impress overseas observers. This is the crucial area in which the Government has been most reluctant to move." South Africa's foreign relations with countries are at "an all-time low and are continuing to worsen. We can be critical about double standards being applied, but this argument will not solve any of our problems. We can expect no softening of world opinion or action until: apartheid is well and truly dead; all race discrimination has been jettisoned from our statute book; political prisoners have been released; black political parties are unbanned and allowed to operate within the scope of the ordinary law; negotiations involving black leadership and addressing fundamental political and constitutional change have been initiated; the policy of destabilisation of our neighbours has been discontinued."

Health Care Document Criticized

A page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 27 November comments on the publication of the government "White Paper" which addresses some of the problems surrounding health care in SA. "The White Paper pays lip service to the call for a more market-related policy in which prices are allowed to determine the allocation of resources and the consumption of specific products and services." However, "the document has been fairly decisive about private hospitals, which have frequently been criticised for profiteering but continue to flourish — despite the significantly higher cost to the patient." *Business Day* also finds the White paper humorous because it rejects "the suggestion that blacks' medical aid contributions should be lower than whites' because they claim less — on the grounds that 'the government cannot allow one population group to be discriminated against at the expense of another.'"

COSATU Weakened by Detentions

Alan Fine says on page 7 of the same issue that COSATU celebrates its 1st anniversary this weekend and still "remains a viable and unified organisation" but "some initial expectations are unfulfilled" and "ideological conflict has turned ugly at times." Fine refers to the "attacks on Inkatha and its leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi from COSATU'S first day of existence Inkatha responded by launching the United Workers' Union of SA (UWUSA) on May 1." "The second of half the year has seen a notable decline in COSATU'S anti-Buthelezi rhetoric." "A tendency in Cosatu toward indiscriminate stayaway calls was halted by its failure to mobilise more than a relative handful of workers on July 14 in a protest against the state of emergency. According to COSATU assistant general secretary Sidney Mafumadi, COSATU had failed to gain the support of 'Progressive Organisation' and underestimated the extent to which the organisation had been weakened by detentions. COSATU has in fact been hard hit by the state of emergency, with more than 300 of its leaders and officials detained."

CAPE TIMES on Group Areas Act

"The government's smothering of the President's Council report on the Group Areas Act is creating a crisis in that body, apart from destroying what is left of President Botha's image as reformer," says Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 26 November in a page 10 editorial. "If an imposed system of group differentiation is to remain central in Nationalist thinking — rather than broad South Africanism and non-racial citizenship — the chances of a negotiated settlement are remote. It is not that there is anything wrong in ethnicity, or in the feelings of group loyalty and solidarity. The objectionable element lies in compulsion, which imposes a group identity on an individual whatever his own sense of identity might be." "Sadly, the country will have to wait until there has been more blood-letting and economic attrition, it seems, before the government accepts the inevitable — which is negotiation without preconditions, leading to non-racial elections in a new South Africa."

Towns Object to Nuclear Station

"Should South Africa be embarking on an extension of its nuclear power programme at a time when, for the most part, the rest of the world is either suspending the construction of further nuclear power stations or severely curtailing such plans?" asks a second editorial on the the same page. "Now the Southern Cape coastline seems to be the favoured area for ESCOM's [Electricity Supply Commission] next nuclear power station. Its announcement of an investigation of 19 possible sites coincided with the first official removal of radio-active waste from Koeberg, which will automatically double the risk of a major nuclear accident." The paper says that "already some coastal towns, notably Hermanus, have objected to having the nuclear power station within proximity of their municipal boundaries. We would urge ESCOM not to ride rough-shod over local feeling and force the power station on a local authority which does not want it."

PFP Youth Wing Loses Support

Anthony Johnson writes on the same page that the "Young Progressives — the 3,000 strong youth wing — have been in the firing line lately" but they argue that "the complex task they face in trying to straddle the divide between black acceptance and white electoral support is sometimes not fully appreciated by party stalwarts." Another "particularly thorny" problem facing them is "the erosion of their support base among young whites to both the right and the left — and, to an increasing degree, to emigration." "There has been a loss of youth support to the National Party, particularly among women, since the 'unrest' picked up dramatically in 1984. And on campuses, where the Young Progs are viewed as relatively tame, support is not rocketing either." PFP researcher and strategist Dr Jan Hofmeyer believes the "'moral integrity' of the Young Progs is beyond question, but when it comes to effective strategies they have not got their act together at all.'"

SOWETAN Urges Involvement of Black Business

"The times are more than auspicious for black business to make its public stance on the South African situation," says the page 10 editorial in Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 27 November. "The time is long overdue that black businessmen stood up to be counted." *Sowetan* suggests that black businessmen "address themselves to the multifarious problems that affect our lives. They need particularly to look into the tragic divisions between our political groups that are causing so much pain to all of us". "They may not make a very big impression but as long as a commitment is made, we are sure the black people of this country will eventually move closer together to fight their many problems."

DIE VADERLAND on Unemployment

A page 14 editorial in Johannesburg *Die Vaderland* in Afrikaans on 26 November comments on the unemployment situation saying "a gleam of hope is the present optimism that a measure of improvement in the economy is taking place. The state and the private sector must do all they can to stimulate this." The paper says that many South Africans are "concerned that the sanctions onslaught from the U.S. and the increasing disinvestment will blunt the economic growth. That is why it is so unpleasantthat the boycotters in the U.S. and elsewhere do not realize how seriously their actions can influence the work situation in South Africa." Unemployment is the "curse with which South Africa will be saddled with now and for a while into the future."

REPUBLIKEIN Criticizes NP Leadership

The page 8 editorial in Windhoek *Die Republikein* in Afrikaans on 26 November says that the whites of SWA/Namibia can all "profit from what has happened in the past." The paper refers to the "Outjo motion passed for whites only schools," saying that the leader of the National Party, Kosie Pretorius, cannot "please both the people who accept the motion and also those within his party who seek a more pragmatic policy." The paper points out that Pretorius has said that it would be "unwise to turn this matter into a political hotchpot." *Die Republikein* warns that "it is not possible to concurrently follow a path of non-discrimination and a path of exclusivity."

29 November Press Review

MB290500 [Editorial Report]

CITIZEN: Disinvesting Firms Fair Weather Friends

Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 28 November, in a page 6 editorial, reviews the attitude of foreign companies which are disinvesting from South Africa. Such firms "lived off apartheid, so to speak, using it to make high profits through relatively cheap labour." Now, however, "South Africa ceased to be as profitable to overseas firms as it had been .... The whole atmosphere changed. Firms decided it was better to cut and run rather than stay and continue the social responsibility programmes they had started." "Those who stay and see out the problems of this transitional period will not regret it. Those who go will be remembered for having pulled out when going was tough. Funks or fairweather friends. We despise both kinds."

STAR Decries Destruction of Mofolo Township

Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 28 November, in a page 14 editorial, note that "there has surely never been a less appropriate moment for bulldozing squatters' shacks than right now." This week's evictions in the Mofolo township reflect the "sort of bully-boy tactics which, justly or unjustly, have led to South Africa's declining image." The demolition of the squatter camp "was cruel, crude, stupid, unnecessary and solved nothing." "The process of urbanization, including squatting, needs to be met with constructive ideas and material aid — not tear gas and bulldozers."

Information Bureau Credibility Problem

In a second editorial on the same page, the discrepancies between Bureau for Information versions of unrest incidents and reports from independent observers draw the newspaper's comment. The Mofolo incident is a case in point. "Officially it was claimed that there was a clash between residents and squatters" which eventuated police teargassing of a demonstrating mob. Nevertheless, *Star* reporters on the scene "found no evidence of such a clash; they say tear gas was fired at people crying over their ruined abodes ...." "To compound the issue, the Bureau for Information then changed its version. Surely it must realise that it has a serious credibility problem?"

Speculation on Next President

Frederik van Zyl Slabbert, in his "My View" column on the same page, reviews possible candidates for succession to the presidency of the republic. Summarizing P.W. Botha's strategy for choosing a successor, Van Zyl Slabbert raises four points. 1) "Botha has fundamentally changed the security structure and constitutional course of South Africa, and he would like to see his successor contunue along those lines." 2) "Botha is the most experienced politician in Parliament" and knows how to pave the way for any favorite. 3) Election of the next state president will depend on the NP caucus. 4) The exception to the succession maze is that a candidate from outside the Transvaal might be elected to lead the party. "I have a healthy suspicion P.W. Botha does not think F.W. de Klerk is the man for the job." Neither Pik Botha nor Gerrit Viljoen could challenge De Klerk for the presidency. Chris Heunis and Magnus Malan "are the key curators" of Botha's legacy. Malan is too far behind in party hierarchy, "so Chris Heunis's chances have to be improved."

BUSINESS DAY on Government Commitment to Reform

Commenting of the timetable for reform announced by Jan Steyn, director of the Urban Foundation, in an editorial on page 8, Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 28 November says that while "the more hasty in our society" may dismiss Steyn's program as "too little, too late," he has drawn up "a realistic and achievable programme — realistic, that is, on the basic but sadly questionable assumption that the government does indeed believe in reform." "Of course, government is only one partner, albeit a major one, in the process of change — a point which Styen recognises." Sanctions will have to be balanced with rewards and the "protaganists of change must be prepared to be realistic — to accept that there is no magic, overnight formula." Nevertheless, "the first step must be government's. If it were to commit itself to a programme of change as reasonable as Steyn's, it would be fair to look to the rest of the world, as much as to internal opponents, for like reasonableness."

Further British Disinvestment

In a column on the same page, John Battersby writes from London that, following Barclays Bank withdrawal from South Africa, "the pressure will now intensify on other high-profile and consumer-oriented British companies to follow suit." In the "frontline" of this pressure are "Standard Chartered Bank, Shell, ConsGold, with its 48 percent stake in Goldfields, and BP." Although some of Britain's biggest investors in South Africa "will be able to ride the storm of public opinion and political pressure," British consumer-oriented companies are more vulnerable because of the danger of boycotts.

CAPE TIMES on Economic Power Concentration

Cape Town Cape Times in English on 27 November notes in a page 6 editorial that the withdrawal of Barclays Bank has "led to further concentration of economic power. Exit foreign bank, Barclays PLC, enter vast SA conglomerate, Anglo American." However, while there may be some justification for this in the case of disinvestment, it should not be the case when it comes to the government's privatization plans. "Correctly handled, the privatization initiative could help reduce the drift towards increased clout by giving other in the economy a better chance."

CAPE TIMES on Empty Schools

"That 205,000 desks should stand empty in white schools while millions of black children are crying out for equal education is an appalling commentary on South Africa's racially stratified education system," the *Cape Times* says in another editorial. "No such injustice can ever be defended, not even by the country's apologists." If the government were to open these empty schools to black children it would give the "discredited educational system" a perfect opportunity to "re-establish its good faith."

Boesak Urges Journalists To Take Risks

On the same page, the paper carries excerpts of a speech delivered to the National Union of Journalists by Allan Boesak, president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, in London recently. Boesak says he believes "the white South African liberal press can do much more than it is doing now." "Why don't they simply decide that the time has come for us to speak the truth? Why don't they decide that they will go to black people and hear what has happened in the black areas and that they will print all those atrocites committed by security troops?" Until the liberal press decides to take greater risks, "the black people will continue to believe that those newspapers are not there to serve the truth as they should, but to cover white interests." Boesak notes that there is also a problem with foreign journalists, most of whom are white. It is difficult for them to even enter a township, much less form an accurate idea of life there. They too should take greater risks as there are many people who are willing to help them find the truth.

SOWETAN on Lack of Information

Discussing the bulldozing of shacks in Mofolo in an editorial on page 10, Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on page 10 notes the "deafening silence from television, particularly in its Breakafast programme about what happened at the shack-town." This lack of information is only harmful to the country: "The white community is fooled by reports that do not reflect the real sequence of events. Other people tend to be lulled into complacency and it is only when there is blood and gore that people are shaken from their sleep."

CITY PRESS on Housing Crisis

In its editorial on the same topic, Johannesburg *City Press* in English on 30 November [date as published] says on page 2 that the bulldozing has again highlighted the housing crisis in many townships. "To regard squatter camps as a menace — like the Soweto council is presently doing — without providing people with a roof over their heads, merely heats up an already electric atmosphere. With urbanisation becoming a fact of life, the crisis must be tackled now — before it becomes unmanageable."

Moment of Truth for Whites

In his "Percy's Itch" column on page 4, Percy Qoboza writes that the Christmas season should be a time of meditation "to bring about a spirit of reconciliation and a determined purpose to contribute to the building of a nation." It is time for whites to face the moment of truth and realize that, consciously or unconsciously, they have supported racism and to recognize the errors of their ways. This will be particularly difficult for the government, which has inherited "the sorry legacy" of National Party policy and which fears a right-wing backlash. It is "going to take some guts and a sense of purpose to put the nation back onto a sane political route." This can only be achieved when the government discovers "the virtues of taking the safari trip to Lusaka" and begins "real, meaningful negotiations with the right people."

30 November Press Review

MB300501 [Editorial Report]

STAR Demands Release of Children

Commenting on the report by the Detainees Parents Support Committee that 4,000 to 8,000 children have been detained under the state of emergency, Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 29 November asks: "To what level of repression have some authorities sunk that they find it necessary to put children behind bars in the name of the safety of the State?" "The psychological effects of detention on young people are horrifying. The political effects are equally dreadful. Remember that none of these children have been charged with breaking any of the country's many political laws. In heaven's name, release the under-16-year-olds now."

Parliament Must Lead Reform

In the "Politics" column on the same page, Rob Nuttall writes that while it is true that reform cannot be achieved overnight, acknowledging this "does not absolve Mr Botha." "True, changes have been made, but in the context of a supposed reformist who has ruled for eight years, the movement has been slow and clumsy. When Mr Botha says changes cannot be made overnight, he must be seen to be speaking as a man who has held the reins of government and plotted the course of the country for nearly a decade. It is no wonder black South Africans and some whites are despairing and the world has given up on meaningful, voluntary reform." Nevertheless, "nobody disputes that the power to make changes lies squarely with the Nationalist-led Parliament. And it is there where the talk should be of how to shape up, to strip away inhumane policies, to break down barriers between people and to streamline the system of government to include all the people."

WEEKLY MAIL on Group Areas Report

"The controversial President's Council report on the Group Areas Act has been put in cold storage for two reasons: the Nats [National Party] got cold feet about a rightwing backlash in next year's general election (probably in the second week of April), and President P.W. Botha is said to be making plans to retire after scoring a dramatic success in the election, after which he will hand the whole issue over to his successor," Jean le May writes on page 4 of Johannesburg *The Weekly Mail* in English for 28 November-4 December. The delay has caused the PFP to boycott the President's Council, but both Alan Hendrickse of the Labor Party and Amichand Rajbansi of the National People's Party voted in favor of the delay, "leading to the inevitable supposition that the two Ministers-Without-Portfolio had the riot act read to them about disagreeing with Cabinet decisions. They may have been assured that the outcome of the report, once it gets off the ground, will be a real humdinger. How they will reconcile their acceptance of the deal with their consciences and pacify their electorates is, mercifully, very much an own affair."

U.S.-RSA Ties at 'Lowest Point' in Decade

"Relations between the South African and United States governments have deteriorated to the lowest point in nearly a decade, with anti-American sentiment rising sharply in the white community in response to the leading role now assumed by the U.S. in the international sanctions campaign," Patrick Laurence writes on page 12. President Botha's recent speech criticizing the United States "was probably the most acrid public attack by a white South African leader on the U.S. in a decade." The speech has been seen "as an expression of anger at U.S. policy and a bid to set the tone for an anticipated general election for whites early next year. Rallying whites around the government to resist American 'interference' will be a major plank of the National Party platform in the expected election," according to the Afrikaans newspaper Rapport. However, it would be wrong to dismiss Botha's speech as "mere election manoeuvres. There is — and was — very real white anger and anxiety at what is seen as the hostile and hypocritical policy pursued by the U.S."

Business Confidence Remains Low

"Now is an ideal time" for South African companies "to snap up firms selling out at way below the market prices because of political pressures," Phillip van Niekerk writes on page 15. "South Africa is awash with money due to revenues from the high gold price and a very favourable balance of payments resulting largely from the low rand." However, "because of the uncertain political climate, business confidence remains low. No one is putting money into new ventures. Little of the capital around is being turned into productive investment to build new factories or provide jobs for the country's unemployed, conservatively estimated at more than 3 million, but perhaps as high as 6 million."

1 December Press Review

MB010740 [Editorial Report]

SUNDAY TIMES on Indaba Report

A page 34 editorial in Johannesburg *Sunday Times* in English on 30 November says the report of the KwaNatal Indaba this week is significant because it is "the first time in our history that constituency leaders from all race groups have created, through hard bargaining, a constitution guaranteeing genuine power-sharing." *Sunday Times* says the report is "the product of leaders, not academics. It is the fruit of old-fashioned horse-trading, not co-option by stealth. Ultimately it is a reaffirmation of faith in the potential for sincere men to find honest solutions." However, the Indaba may also "represent the best, and perhaps last, compromise the people of this divided land can make over their political differences."

'Duplicitous' U.S. Conduct Criticized

A second editorial on the same page says that when U.S. President Reagan "clothes all his actions in a high moral tone — and invites others to join him in a crusade against terrorism — revelations that his underlings are engaged in venal, mismanaged conspiracies are bound to hurt." South Africa and other countries like itself, "who are also touched by the effects of U.S. foreign policy, can only wonder whether such duplicitous conduct also takes place in our part of the world."

Public Right to Information

On the same page Harald Pakendorf, former editorial of *Die Vaderland*, addresses an open letter to newly appointed Deputy Minister of Information Stoffel van der Merwe, saying the government believes that "the less the public knows, the better for it. And therein lies the rub. Because the public don't agree. The principle is wrong that one man should decide what a whole nation has a right to know." Pakendorf also says that Van der Merwe is "surrounded by fellow members who think as you will, namely that the problems of the country are due to the media." Pakendorf advises Van der Merwe to "make it clear where your information comes from, so that you don't have to carry the can for everybody"; and "don't ever leave the impression that you are not being open and honest and are trying to keep something from the public.

PFP CALLS for NP Government Removal

PFP leader Colin Eglin says on page 35 that "after 38 successive years of National Party rule our country is in a mess," and "the blame for this sorry state of affairs lies primarily with the Government. Apart from its lack of clear political objectives, it seems incapable of controlling its insatiable appetite for spending." Eglin says that "Botha's government cannot come to terms with the new realities of political power in this country. It is trying to pour the new wine of political power-sharing into the old bottles of Nationalist apartheid ideology. It is toying with the concept of power-sharing while at the same time trying to retain power." Eglin believes that "the non-racial option is the Rubicon that Mr Botha's government simply cannot cross — and as a consequence our country is deadlocked in a debilitating political crisis." "If South Africa is to have peace and prosperity and unity, then the Government must go." "While it makes sense to challenge an incompetent government on issues of the day, it makes even more sense to ensure that a competent and caring government consisting of men and women who share the values of nonracial consensus" is elected in the first instance. "The hour has come for men and women who share a vision of a new nonracial South Africa to join forces in a new movement for an alternative government."

'Vacuum' Explains Right-wing Growth

Dennis Worrall, South African ambassador in London, says on the same page: "At the moment we are between the past and future. As our Government says goodbye to apartheid and is looking to the future, there is, at this moment, a sense of a vacuum. This explains the growth of the right wing. It explains the reluctance of the blacks to negotiate and the lack of business confidence." "The only political bodies in our society that have clear visions of the future are the extremes of the political spectrum. The real political fight is, therefore, on the extreme flanks of our political system. The big hope is that neither extreme triumphs. If they do, we will have guaranteed the worst possible scenario for South Africa. Hence, in my view, the justification of the state of emergency; we must have a return to stability, the intimidation must be stopped." Worrall believes that "peaceful answers are possible" but it does not lie in "clever formulas and magic." The answer lies in "leadership — and everyone has a role to play."

SUNDAY STAR on U.S.-Iran Arms Link

A page 22 editorial in Johannesburg *The Sunday Star* in English on 30 November says that the "tangled web of illegal activity and deceit in the Iran-Nicaragua arms link has lost President Reagan both credibility and respect." "In a way this episode is worse than the Nixon debacle because it involves double-dealing in international affairs, not merely on the domestic scene. It embarrasses Washington's allies as well." "Maybe banana republics can get away with it. The leader of an open and democratic society cannot."

Racial Discrimination Replaced by Economic Domination

The same page carries an article by Bob Tucker, managing director of the SA Perm, which he wrote for *Leadership SA*. Tucker says the position of the black man in South Africa is "indeed desperate in actual terms" but in "perceptual terms it is even worse." "His aspirations have been raised by promises of 'reform', but it is now becoming clear that the substitution of a vigorously capitalistic system for racial discrimination will probably result in the black man's lot remaining the same, or perhaps even deteriorating." "There can be little doubt that to the extent that economic domination is substituted for racial discrimination and as a result the lot of the black man remains the same, white controlled business will be perceived to be the instrument of the Government in maintaining that status quo." Tucker believes that the business community can and must influence events in the political arena, but "should do so appreciating the fact that it does so as a catalyst, and not as one of the primary agents. The objective must be to facilitate the black communities, which are primary agents, speaking for themselves through creditable political structures."

Government Plan To Reject Group Areas Report

Political correspondent David Breier writes on page 23: "A ruthlessly cunning Government political manoeuvre lies behind the withdrawal of the President's Council report on the Group Areas Act, members of the council told *The Sunday Star* yesterday." "The trap the Government wants the President's Council to fall into is to come up with an even more explicit report, according to the sources. This would enable the government to reject it out of hand by saying that it was out of step with the constitution." "They point their fingers at Mr Chris Heunis, the

Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, who is the chief force behind Government constitutional thinking and who wants nothing to undermine his constitutional plans." By keeping the report "deliberately vague on the ramifications of local option" the President's Council had hoped the government would find it hard to reject it but the government "ensured that the report was referred back to the council's constitutional affairs' committee." Breier says that members of the President's Council agree that the government's attempt to prevent major changes to the Group Areas Act lies behind its strategy. "This is more important than merely postponing the report until after next year's mini or General Election to prevent the Nats [NP members] losing support to the Right."

Concern at Barclays Exit Unfounded

On pages 1 and 2 of the "Review" section finance editor John Spira says that South Africans' concern at Barclay's UK's exit from South Africa is unfounded because: "The domestic banking operation has in no way relied on Barclays UK for financial support;" "the UK withdrawal involves no more than a change in Barclays SA's shareholders — from a foreign to a local base"; and "the domestic operation will not be prejudiced on the technological front, because — if anything — Barclays SA is more advanced in this sphere than Barclays UK." Spira also says that in a South African context, "the chances of a back going insolvent are extremely remote" because "all banks are constantly scrutinised as to their financial wellbeing." "Depositors assume a modicum of risk, however small, each time they entrust their money to a bank. Yet the history of the banking industry in this country is such that this tiny risk has invariably been justified — thanks to careful legislation and the high calibre of management that has become a hallmark of this sphere of economic activity."

NP Urged To Decide on Group Areas

On page 3 Peter Sullivan says in the "Sullivan on Sunday" column that the next election will be fought on the issue of the Group Areas Act. He points out that the PFP "wants it scrapped, the Conservative Party wants it retained as it is. The National Party had better make up its mind soon, or it will have to defend an indefensible position, a position which has all the potential of dividing the party either during the election or immediately after it, in the way 'power sharing' split it in 1982 after the Mr Botha gained his mandate in 1981."

SUNDAY STAR: Anti-RSA Lobby Has Not Ceased

On page 3 of the "review" section of *The Sunday Star* Harry Schwarz says in his "Talking cents" column that for the first time in quite a while the "profile of South Africa" abroad seems "somewhat lower," but that does not mean that "the storm against South Africa is over." "The pressure from groups who want more action against South Africa continues, their lobbying is not at an end. There is no force willing or able to stand up against the pressure. One can expect therefore that at the right moments, politically or psychologically, there will be further punitive actions." Schwarz says the pressure is on "for change in the power structure. This is the objective and South Africans, irrespective of colour or politics, must realise that this is the name of the only game in town when it concerns South Africa."

DIE TRANSVALER on Group Areas

A page 30 editorial in Pretoria *Die Transvaler* in Afrikaans on 27 November says that "it is important that the rulers realize that the Group Areas Act, together with related legislation, is at the forefront of the political debate and of reform." *Die Transvaler* believes that "it is unfortunate that the Group Areas Act received such negative connotations which has made it for some, totally unreconcilable with the attempts at reform. The fact is that the Group Areas Act removed tensions between races, which in itself prompts the climate for reform."

BEELD: West Urged To Heed Anti-Sanctions Calls

A page 10 editorial in Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 28 November says: "We do not expect that the outside world will accept the arguments of the South African Government. The prejudices and the hate is much too great. But there are other voices — people who have no reason to plead on behalf of the government, but who nevertheless speak in the interest of morality and the truth." The paper refers to South African writer Alan Paton who pleaded against sanctions and the paper says he and others are "witnesses of the earnestness with which Afrikaners tackle the task of dismantling apartheid." The paper hopes that even though South Africa "has little official credibility" that the West will listen to these other voices.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

2 DECEMBER 1986

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi warned Iraq to stop violating the airspace of other Gulf states and he criticized the "indifference" of such states to the Iraqi violations, IRNA reported. Commenting on the possibility that other states in the region cooperated with Iraq in its recent raid on Larak Island, Musavi expressed hope that such reports are false, but he said Iran will investigate the matter to determine which country might have done "such a silly act." He denied that Iran has agreed to give unexploded Soviet-made Iraqi bombs to the United States and also rejected "rumors" that Iran has put its U.S.-manufactured weapons at the disposal of any other country. In another development, Tehran radio announced that the International Red Cross (IRC) has agreed to resume its activities in Iran, citing an IRC statement that "formally requests" Iran to "overlook past differences."

Iraqi President Saddam Husayn commented on Iran's "special and dirty cooperation" with "U.S. organs and the Zionist entity" in a speech broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio, asserting that Iraq was "expecting this to take place before now." Iraq has been calling Ayatollah Khomeyni a "charlatan" since 1981, he pointed out, and even before his movement took power in Iran, the Iraqis expected that its "first evil deed would be against Iraq."

The Greek paper *Dhimokratikos Logos* claimed in a 2 December report cited by AFP that the United States made at least 20 arms deliveries to Iran by air and that several other consignments were made by ship from Western Europe. The paper said it will publish "in the next few days" a full transcript of the tape recordings on which its reports are based.

Israel

Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres expressed "shock" over U.S. allegations that Israel transferred funds to the Nicaraguan contras and termed such reports an "anti-Israel plot," Jerusalem radio noted. IDF radio pointed out that checks with "all elements involved" reconfirm that Israel had no prior knowledge of the money's final destination. Sources cited by *The Jerusalem Post* suggested that Saudi Arabia facilitated the funds transfer in connection with its AWACS deal. In a related development, "reliable sources" told the *Post* that the Iranian opposition faction led by Abolhasan Bani-Sadr gave the Beirut paper *Al-Shira'* details of the U.S. arms deal in an attempt to discredit both President Reagan and Ayatollah Khomeyni.

Regarding Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's position on the peace process, Shamir's office stated that he would agree to an "international forum," but only after an agreement has been reached in direct negotiations with other parties, *Ma'Ariv* reported. The paper viewed this statement as a denial that Shamir's position on the issue has changed. Shamir also confirmed that Syria has chemical weapons and called for U.S. assistance in preparing the IDF to "prevent any surprises," *Davar reported*.

Syria

Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' referred to the U.S.-Iran affair in a press interview cited by Damascus radio, stating that as Iran is an important state in the region, it is only natural that the United States will seek to establish relations with it using "all moral as well immoral means" to achieve this. Speaking to the UAE's *Al-Khalij*, he added that all talk about an Israeli role in the deal is an attempt to deceive Arabs and Muslims and stop them from establishing good relations with Iran by casting doubts on the latter's slogans about the liberation of Jerusalem and Palestine. On Arab affairs, Al-Shar' said President Hafiz al-Asad has informed the Arab League that Syria supports the convening of a regular Arab summit and that it will make every possible effort to ensure its success.

Lebanon

Reporting on the continuing battles between Amal and Palestinian gunmen, Radio Monte Carlo said that over 30 people were killed and 60 were wounded in clashes at Maghdushah 1 December. Renewed fighting prevented a Lebanese Red Cross attempt to evacuate casualties from the Al-Rashidiyah camp near Tyre, while around 40 tanks bombarded the Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah camps in Beirut. The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon cited reports that 420 people have been killed or wounded in Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah since the fighting started. Baghdad Voice of PLO radio said the Palestinians repulsed fresh attacks on Shatila 1 December and claimed that Syrian artillery bombarded the camp.

In Saudi Arabia, SPA reported a cease-fire appeal by King Fahd, who deplored the continued attacks on Palestinians in Lebanon and warned that Israel is the only benefactor from the conflict.

In a separate development, IDF radio announced that four South Lebanon Army soldiers were killed and seven were injured in a 2 December clash with "terrorists" on the northern edge of Israel's security zone.

DRA

At least 25 DRA troops and Soviet advisers were killed 29 November when Afghan guerrillas shot down a transport plane some 30 miles east of Kabul, according to a rebel news agency cited by AFP.

An article in the *Kabul New Times* cited by BAKHTAR charged that some of the U.S. weapons sent to Iran were intended for Afghan rebels and accused Iran of serving "world imperialism."

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Tunisia's Sfar Addresses Ministers Council

LD012330 Kuwait KUNA in English 1604 GMT 1 Dec 86

[By Jassem Matar]

[Text] Tunis, Dec 1 (KUNA) — Addressing fifth session of the Arab Interior Ministers Council which began here today, Tunisian presidential representative drew attention to the Israeli aggressive anti-Arab plots aimed at deforming the Arab image and damaging our relations with countries backing the Arab just causes.

Premier Rachid Sfar, deputizing for President Habib Bourguiba, voiced Tunisia's optimism that the Arabs will pass this difficult test successfully.

Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi referred to the Arab strategy for combatting drugs as an exceptionally important project, noting that inter-Arab and Arab-international cooperation in this regard is still below the needed level.

Expressing regret and surprise over the recent Iranian-Israeli-American developments in relations, Klibi said Israel and its supporters do not want to bring this war to an end before complete collapse of the two parties.

Kuwait interior minister Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad thanked the Tunisian Government and people for their efforts to render the gathering a success.

Shaykh Nawwaf called for developing Arab security capabilities in face of the steadily increasing forms of crimes and in protection of internal fronts in the Arab states.

Following Shaykh Nawwaf's address, the session adjourned and will resume later this evening to discuss the set up agenda.

PFLP's George Habash Addresses Rally in Algiers

JN011904 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] In the presence of PFLP Secretary General Comrade George Habash and Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces and Fatah Central Committee member, as well as in the presence of senior officials of the Algerian FLN Party, a massive popular rally was held at the Ibn Khaldun Hall in Algiers the day before yesterday on the international day of solidarity with our Palestinian people. The rally was called by the Algerian FLN Party.

Addressing the rally, attended by numerous representatives of Arab and world liberation movements in Algeria, were a number of Algerian officials. They stressed Algeria's principled, firm stands supporting our Palestinian people's just struggle to regain their inalienable national rights, headed by their right to repatriation, to self-determination, and to an independent Palestinian state under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The brother Algerians also emphasized the importance of restoring Palestinian national unity and of confronting the current phase of our Palestinian people's struggle in light of the intensifying imperialist-Zionist onslaught.

During the rally, Brother Abu al-'Izz, PLO representative in Algeria, addressed the audience. He said: I take the opportunity of the presence of Brother Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, and of Comrade George Habash, PFLP secretary general, and ask Brother Abu Jihad's permission that the Palestinian revolution's speech be one speech, delivered by Comrade Dr George Habash.

After this was approved by warm applause on the part of the audience, Comrade Habash delivered the Palestinian revolution's speech. He began the speech by talking about national unity and the need to enhance the unity of the Palestinian ranks in confronting the conspiracies to which our people are being skbjected. Habash said enhancing Palestinian national unity and adhering to the revolution's rifle in the current phase are among the most important tasks to be carried out so our people can confront all forms of conspiracy against them, both in the occupied land and in the Lebanese arena.

Dr Habash asserted that the Palestinian rifle is the Palestinian homeland and identity. He stressed that Palestinians will not abandon or relinquish this rifle. He pointed out that one of the objectives of the conspiracy against our people in Lebanon now is an attempt to remove the Palestinian rifle. Hence, they are carrying out ugly massacres against our kinfolk in the camps.

In conclusion, Dr Habash said: We support every good effort to cease fire and direct all resources against the Zionist enemy. But we will not surrender or yield if the hostile forces continue their conspiracy against our people. We will defend our people and rifle, as well as our camps, in the face of these conspiratorial forces. I say enough of slaughtering our people in Shatila and enough of besieging Al-Rashidiyah camp.

Appeals to Soviet Officials

JN011546 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1500 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] A PFLP delegation led by George Habash met with the USSR ambassador in Algiers today. Talks focused on the current armed conflict between Amal and the Palestinians in Lebanon.

It was learned that PFLP Secretary General George Habash asked the Soviet ambassador to convey a message to CPSU Central Committee members urging them to exert the necessary efforts to stop the ongoing battles between the Amal militiamen and Palestinian fighters in Beirut and southern Lebanon.

Radio Interviews Fatah's Al-Wazir on Camps War

LD012240 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Interview with Fatah Central Committee Member Khalil al-Wazir, identified by his nomme de guerre Abu Jihad, by unidentified correspondent in Algiers; date not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Correspondent] Answering a question on the conditions in Lebanon in light of the continuing attacks against our people's camps by Birri's gangs of despair, Brother Abu Jihad said:

[Abu Jihad] The Palestinian revolution has been subjected to a continuing attack on its presence in Lebanon. I first want to recall the objectives of the Israeli enemy when it carried out its campaign in the June 1982 war. In that war, the enemy defined its main task — as stated in Israeli cabinet documents — as the destruction of the PLO, both militarily and politically, and secondly, the expulsion of the PLO from southern Lebanon, Beirut and the whole of Lebanon. [passage omitted]

What is the Al-Rashidiyah Camp? It is a small camp disarmed by the Israeli Army. Its population lives without any arms. But they began to prepare themselves to defend themselves in the face of the Israeli attacks, as the Israeli gunboats used to open fire against it. Then we saw the aggression explode from the Amal movement against this camp. And the attacks continued. The camp has been beseiged for 70 days. They even prevent food from being brought in. Epidemics have broken out inside this camp and all the humanitarian bodies, including the Red Cross, have sought permission to bring medicine to the camp to combat the epidemics, but to no avail. We saw them prevent the entry of supplies, of all food supplies to those people, and the attacks continue. During this ongoing operation to beseige Al-Rashidiyah Camp, conditions have become tense all over Lebanon. All the appeals, all the mediation efforts through Damascus, through the nationalist movement, through all sides, have been to no avail. And they are continuing their attacks and shelling day and night, and seeking to invade the camp.

What happened after this? The aggression also exploded against the Burj al-Barajinah Camp in Beirut and against the Shatila camp. And now the operations against Shatila have been continuing for over 19 days. And then the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp was assaulted from the Maghdushah region. There has been shelling. The Maghdushah region is high up and with a machine gun one can dominate every street of the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp. The attacks have continued and they have prevented movement in 'Ayn al-Hulwah and begun to hit buildings made of light bricks. One bullet goes through two walls because the huts of the Palestinian refugees there were poorly built. We see the aggression and hence, the Palestinian forces were forced to confront this position which used to dominate them and were able expel the Amal forces from that position.

As for Shatila, we see the fierce attack continuing day and night. The brothers in Shatila told us that last night at least 1,800 shells fell on the camp, which is a small one — it is not more than 1 km by 1 km. In one night 1,800 heavy shells landed on it, destroying most of its homes. This shelling has been going on day and night for the last few days. [passage omitted]

The basic political question is why did these attacks happen? Do the Palestinians want to compete with Amal's influence and authority, the dominating authority in that region? The answer is the Palestinian does not want a thing. The Palestinian is not competing with anyone for influence in Lebanon. We did not say to the Syrian brothers we share your influence. You dominate Lebanon, you are as free as you wish, you and our brothers in Lebanon. But we say the Palestinian only wants to have the right to live, he who was expelled from the occupied land because of the Zionist aggression in 1948. More than half a million Palestinians have been living in Lebanon since 1948, at these camps. How much they have lived under oppression and torture, and how many Palestinians have been killed at the cellars of the Deuxieme Bureau? The Palestinians have been tortured in every refugee camp. Every youth went to prison and was tortured. This is how the Palestinians used to live. And when they felt their dignity, their rifle, they defended themselves and prevented this oppression and torture by the Lebanese Deuxieme Bureau and the forces and apparatuses of the Lebanese Army. [passage omitted]

Despite all the decisions and agreements that stipulate freedom of movement for the Palestinians, they are deprived and live in a ghetto. And if some girls go out to do their shopping or to buy some supplies, we see that they are arrested. And then we see the youths being chased and expelled. This is happening now in the south and in our camps. This is the long story which is being repeated [word indistinct].

We say we do not oppose any agreement for a cease-fire that might be introduced, and we send our appeal to the whole Arab nation, to anyone in this world who has a conscience. Why is this aggression continuing? Voices should be raised loudly to end the aggression.

The aggression perpetrated by Amal is not its decision only. We honestlly and sincerely state this is the decision of our brothers in Damascus. The decision is in their hands. They are the ones who must stop this aggression, otherwise why do they encourage these aggressions against the Palestinian camps? This is our question and our call and the call of our Arab nation and that of the officials of this nation and that of anybody who has a conscience in this nation. They must speak up and tell our brothers in Syria: You are responsible and you must stop this hysterical, savage and barbarous campaign against the Palestinians. Enough slaughter, enough humiliation, and enough aggression, and enough destruction and burning of houses. [passage indistinct]

Regrettably, the Arab artillery is also participating and shelling the refugee camps. We see that Israeli aircraft are bombing as well. What is this coordination? Why are the Israeli vessels in the sea shelling our camps and besieging the shores and preventing any Palestinian coming to support his brothers? This is the question we ask our Arab nation and our brothers in Algeria so they can know the reality of what is taking place. We must put an end with all determination to this aggression against our relatives and (?people).

[Correspondent] About the situation in occupied Palestine,in light of the savage Israeli aggression against our relatives and their possessions and sanctities, brother Abu Jihad said:

[Abu Jihad] The conspiracy has always been like this against the Palestinian people. When it wants to impact upon the morale of the Palestinian revolution and upon its will and resolution, the Israeli enemy strikes against our relatives in the occupied territories in order to weaken us. [passage omitted]

When will our Arab nation come together again? When will solidarity return to its ranks? When will we see it adopting a united attitude, able to direct its outcry and express its will in confronting this aggression? This is the bewildering question which goes on and on. The Palestinians, like our Arab nation with its masses in all positions, are awaiting an answer.

[Correspondent] Concerning the dialogue among the groups of the Palestinian revolution to consolidate their unity, brother Abu Jihad said:

[Abu Jihad] I want to make clear to all our brothers and people everywhere, the unity of the Palestinian people exists, it is embodied in reality, it is a truth, and there is no Palestinian anywhere who can say no to the PLO. Every Palestinian, in every position in the occupied land, in Lebanon, and in every place where Palestinians exist, says yes to the PLO, the symbol of its struggle and the total sum and the fruit of the sacrifices made by more than 100,000 martyrs from this people, in addition to the tens of thousands of wounded men and prisoners. [passage omitted]

The second truth is that, when we talk about unity, we mean the unity of the groups playing their role in the Palestinian arena. We are struggling continuously through the continuation of contacts with all the sides to achieve this unity, after all that has happened, following the events of Tripoli, and after what the PLO and the Palestinian revolution were exposed to in 1983. The efforts are continuing and all the Palestinian parties have responded and declared their responses to the initiative of brother President Chadli Bendjedid to meet the Palestinians in Algeria. Five organizations have announced their readiness for this meeting and will soon meet in Algeria with the popular organizations. The five main organizations are Fatah, the Democratic Front, the Arab Liberation Front, the Palestine Liberation Front, and the Palestine Communist Party, in addition to the Palestinian popular organizations that bring together workers, students, women, lawyers, doctors, engineers, jurists, and other popular Palestinian organizations, in addition to the presidency of the Palestine National Council, and some of the independent nationalist Palestinian personalities from the various regions. All these are to meet in the coming weeks in Algeria to study issues concerning the preparations to convene the 17th session of the Palestine National Council [PNC]. There remains the Salvation Front which announced its reservations when the Algerian initiative was announced and said they did not wish to accept it. We regret to say that a Syrian official stood up and said to them:

Damascus is not a hotel, and whoever wants to accept the Algerian initiative should go on a one-way ticket.

This raised sword on the necks of our brothers is the cause of the obstruction and the postponement and the hesitation of those brothers' attendance. Yet we say in Fatah, in the PLO, and in all the organizations, that the door is open to all our brothers to take part. We confirm the need to turn the page of the past,despite all the painful and burning lines. We say we should turn a new page and therefore welcome everyone who wants to join the dialogue which is being preapred for the coming session of the PNC. [passage omitted]

PNSF Spokesman Urges Lebanese-PLO Agreement

JN011404 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] Khalid 'Abd al-Majid, spokesman for the Palestine National Salvation Front [PNSF], today called for abandoning the current maneuvers to sign temporary truce agreements and for discussing a radical political agreement regulating Lebanese-Palestinian relations: guaranteeing the Palestinians' rights and national role: allowing the Palestinians to maintain their weapons in the camps: bolstering Lebanese-Palestinian national relations: and supporting the Lebanese national plan to confront the Zionist-isolationist scheme. He called on the concerned parties to abandon the policy of prevarication and stop wagering on delusions, which only lead to further destruction of the national and pan-Arab plan in the Lebanese arena.

He said all the agreements signed with the Amal movement were doomed to failure because they failed to recognize the Palestinian presence and refused to agree to a formula that would organize relations, reassure the Palestinians, and guarantee their future presence. He stressed that the Palestinian revolution greatly cares about the Lebanese people's national interests and is ready to support the national Lebanese struggle against the Zionization and partition schemes threatening Lebanon. In the meantime, he added, the Palestinian revolution calls on all the Lebanese nationalists to recognize the Paelstinian presence, which is today threatened with annihilation and displacement. If no radical political solution is reached, the ongoing war will destroy the national interests of both the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, he concluded.

Palestinian Meeting in Algiers 'Postponed'

JN301457 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] According to informed Palestinian sources in Algiers, an expanded Palestinian meeting scheduled for the end of this month in Algiers has been postponed due to the serious incidents taking place in Lebanon. The meeting will now be held by the middle of next month. The meeting, which will prepare for a PNC session, will bring together representatives of Fatah, the DFLP, the Palestinian Communist Party, and other independent Palestinian figures, the sources added.

Meanwhile, Fatah and PFLP sources say George Habash, PFLP secretary general, who conferred with Algerian President Chadli

Bendjedid and Assistant Secretary General of the FLN Mohammed Cherif Messaadia yesterday on the dangers threatening the Palestinian cause and the PLO, and ways to restore PLO unity, will not be participating in the expanded Palestinian meeting scheduled to be held in Algiers.

In another development, Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, deputy secretary general of the DFLP, praised yesterday's meeting in Algiers between George Habash and Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], Fatah Central Committee member. 'Abd Rabbuh gave a speech at the Al-Yarmuk camp in Damascus last night to mark the international day of solidarity with the Palestinian people.

Fatah's Khalaf Voices Solidarity With UAE

JN011729 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 30 Nov 86 pp 1, 26

[From Fathi al-Barqawi in Tunis]

[Text] Salah Khalaf, Fatah Central Committee member, has voiced the PLO's solidarity with the UAE and all Arabs. This came in answer to *Al-Bayan's* question on the Palestinian stand toward the air raid against the Abu al-Bukush oilfield. Khalaf said aggressions against all Arab countries are the same.

Answering a question by *Al-Bayan* on the issue of Palestinian unity and the date for convening a PNC session, Khalaf said this depends on the Palestinian parties that signed the Prague declaration, adding that the meetings between PFLP Secretary General George Habash and Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, in Prague and Moscow are within this context.

However, Khalaf clearly noted that, in his view, the important thing now is the current aggreement among the Palestinian factions in confronting the plots in the occupied territory and Lebanon. He said discussions among the Palestinians will continue until they conclude with holding the PNC in Algiers, following a meeting among the signatories to the Prague declaration.

OAPEC Faces Bankruptcy; Tunisia May Withdraw

LD021215 Kuwait KUNA in English 1054 GMT 2 Dec 86

[By Shamel Khayri]

[Text] Kuwait, Dec 2 (KUNA) — The Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) will probably face two difficult decisions in its tomorrow's ministerial meeting here.

Senior oil Arab sources disclosed in a statement to KUNA Tuesday that Tunisia was apparently still insisting on its decision to withdraw from the organization marking the first such precedence in history of the 11-member organization.

Tunisia, which joined OAPEC in 1982, had officially asked for withdrawal from the organization during its first biannual meeting this year in May, which was also held here.

Kuwait and other Gulf countries have succeeded in convincing Tunisia to postpone and reconsider its decision until the second biannual meeting slated for December 3rd.

The [word indistinct] noted that Tunis, due to absence of petroleum projects on its territory, did not feel the importance of joining the organization and elaborated that it did not pay its annual quota since 1983 which accumulated as a result to KD 1.2 million, around four million dollars.

Tunis, with a current 120,000 barrels per day in production, had leaked reports that it was withdrawing over economic reasons and that it had similarly withdrawn from other regional and international organizations to reduce payments of hard currency.

On the other hand, the sources said that the Arab oil ministers will probably support a new slash in the organization's 1987 budget of around 25 percent bringing it down to KD 2.03 million.

The Kuwait-based organization is already facing an acute financial crisis that threatens its bankruptcy due to non-payment of dues by certain members that reached four million Kuwaiti dinars or around 13.6 million dollars.

Iraq and Syria have not paid their annual instalments for several years while Qatar and Algeria were in arears over this year's [word indistinct].

OAPEC Secretary General Dr. 'Ali 'Atiqa had told KUNA last August that if such a situation persists the organization will stop functioning.

The Arab oil ministers or their representatives are expected to discuss these two issues along with OAPEC's upcoming five year plan and perparations for the fourth Arab energy conference scheduled for 1988 in Baghdad.

[Word indistinct] of OAPEC, the Arab oil training institute and the judiciary panel will be discussed as well.

OAPEC, founded in 1968, groups Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain, Iraq, Syria, Libya, Algeria, Tunisia and Syria.

BAHRAIN

Minister Delivers Amir Message to UAE President

JN012142 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1910 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Manama, 1 Dec (WAKH) — Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah returned to Manama from Abu Dhabi this evening, after a short visit to the UAE during which he conveyed a message from the Bahraini Amir Shaykh ‘Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifabto UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan dealing with current developments in the region, particularly after the recent attack on oil installations in the Abu al-Bukush oilfield. The message falls within the framework of the policy of continuous cooperation and consultation between the two countries.

Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah also conveyed the greetings and congratulations of the Bahraini amir, government, and people to Shaykh Zayid on the UAE's 15th national day, which is celebrated tomorrow.

KUWAIT

Amir's Attackers Get Life Sentence, Death Penalty

LD290948 Kuwait KUNA in English 0806 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Kuwait, Nov 29 (KUNA) — The State Security Court Saturday passed the capital punishment against ‘Ala Muhammad Rida Muhammad al-Atrash over charges of attacking motorcade of H.H. the amir, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah on May 25 last year, life sentence on Wadi‘ ‘Abd al-Husayn Muhammad Hassan al-Atrash and declared the three other defendents not guilty. [passage omitted]

Prime Minister Meets Egyptian Minister Dr ‘Ubayd

LD011130 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0834 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Kuwait, 1 Dec (KUNA) — Dr ‘Atif Muhammad ‘Ubayd, the Egyptian minister of state for cabinet affairs, met here today with Shaykh Sa‘d al-‘Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, the Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister, in the presence of Rashid ‘Abd al-‘Aziz al-Rashid, the Kuwaiti minister of state for cabinet affairs, and members of the Egyptian delegation accompanying Dr ‘Ubayd and head of the Egyptian-Interests Caretaker Office in Kuwait.

‘Ubayd Meets Foreign Minster

LD011438 Kuwait KUNA in English 1229 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Kuwait, Dec 1 (KUNA) — Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir received today Egyptian Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs ‘Atif Muhammad ‘Ubayd, who is currently visiting the country.

The two ministers reviewed developments in the Arab world and examined topics on the agenda of the forthcoming Islamic summit January 26, as well as efforts by both countries to guarantee the success of this mammoth gathering.

Later Shaykh Sabah received the ambassador of Czechoslovakia to Kuwait Thomas Strakos for an exchange on bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest.

He as well received the ambassador of the UAE Shaykh Sultan ibn ‘Ali al-Nu‘aymi, who invited him to attend the reception that is held on occasion of the UAE national day.

Minister Holds Talks With Soviet Ambassador

LD011447 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1316 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Kuwait, 1 Dec (KUNA) — Sa‘ud Muhammad al-‘Usaymi, Kuwaiti minister of state for foreign affairs, today received Soviet Ambassador to Kuwait Ernest Nikolayevich Zverev. Al-‘Usaymi told the journalists afterwards he reviewed the good relations between the USSR and Kuwait with the Soviet ambassador.

He added that during the meeting, the Soviet ambassador acquainted him with the results of last week's visit to India by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, and his talks with Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. The ambassador, he said, handed him also a copy of the recent Soviet statement on the USSR's attitude toward SALT II and a copy of the Soviet-Indian joint appeal concerning a world free from nuclear weapons and violence, signed by Soviet leader Gorbachev and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi during the former's visit to New Delhi.

Ambassador Zverev affirmed that the joint appeal, signed by the leadership of both countries in the socialist camp and the Nonaligned Movement, calls for completely liquidating nuclear weapons, abandoning violence in relations among countries, and drawing up a new charter for international relations.

The ambassador added that the minister expressed to him Kuwait's great interest in the statement and its positive and good evaluation of the appeal. The ambassador affirmed he will provide the Foreign Ministry with any new details he might receive about Gorbachev's visit to India.

Asked about the USSR's attitude toward the Iraq-Iran war, Ambassador Zverev said "it was fully known to all the world." He said that during the past years, Moscow had exerted persistent efforts through its contacts with the two sides to end the war, which he described as "a senseless war claiming the lives of many innocent people."

He pointed out that the continuation of the war creates a state of instability in the Gulf region and his country feels it is essential to put an end to it as soon as possible with no consideration for any principles of victor and vanquished, but for the safeguarding of the national interests and dignity of both countries." [quotation mark as received]

The ambassador affirmed ending this regrettable war will remove all problems in the region, including the problem of navigation in the Arab Gulf and the endangerment of navigational freedom there.

With regard to the attitude of the USSR toward the secret arms deal to Iran, the ambassador said he cannot add anything to the stand taken by Arab and world public opinion in regard to this matter. He added that the answer is clear, as expressed by world public opinion in a clear and well-defined position. The best proof of this lies in the attitude taken by the U.S. Congress itself toward the deal: The Congress could not ignore the issue or keep quiet about its effect.

In conclusion, the Soviet ambassador expressed his feelings of cordiality and appreciation toward Kuwait on both the official and popular levels, saying that the great welcome and good will he was shown since his arrival will help him in carrying out his mission as ambassador. He also said he will do all he can to further the good relations between the two countries and entrench and bolster them in all fields.

Minister al-'Usaymi Meets With Iranian Charge

LD012005 Tehran IRNA in English 1755 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 1, IRNA — Kuwaiti Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sa'ud Muhammad al-'Usaymi asserted on Monday that the regime occupying Palestine is in great panic of the Islamic revolution because it has been dealt severe blows by it.

Al-'Usaymi made the remarks in a meeting in Kuwait with Iranian charge d'affaires to that country Muhammad Reza Baqiri.

At the meeting, Baqiri said that as far as the Islamic government is concerned regional governments would be best advised to steer clear of the dictates of the Iraqi government in their relations with Iran.

The Iranian charge d'affaires reiterated that it would be in the supreme interest of regional countries to discontinue their assistance to the Iraqi regime.

OMAN

Omani-FRG Joint Committee Holds Final Session

JN011600 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Yusuf al-Alawi ibn 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, met in his office this morning with members of the Omani-FRG joint committee, now in session in Muscat. On the German side, the meeting was attended by Dr (Lawrence Schumeros), deputy under secretary at the FRG Ministry of Economy, and members of the German delegation. On the Omani side, the meeting was attended by Nizar ibn Muhammad ibn 'Ali, ambassador of Oman to the FRG; 'Abdallah ibn Muhammad al-Dhahab, head of the minister's office department; and Muhammad ibn Yusuf al-Zurafi, first secretary and deputy head of the European Department at the Foreign Ministry.

The meeting reviewed progress made by the committee in bilateral cooperation in various fields, especially in economic, agricultural, health, social, and vocational training areas. The minister of state for foreign affairs praised the positive cooperation shown by the German side during the committee meetings, stressing the close relations between the two friendly countries in various spheres.

The Omani-FRG joint committee held its final session at noon today at the conference hall of the Foreign Ministry with Haytham ibn Tariq Al Sa'id, under secretary at the Foreign Ministry for political affairs, heading the Omani delegation and Dr (Lawrence Schumeros), deputy under secretary at the FRG Ministry of Economy, heading the German team.

Ways to boost bilateral cooperation in economic, technical, health, agricultural, and vocational training areas were discussed during the meeting. Economic and financial cooperation between Oman and the FRG was also discussed, in light of developments in the international oil market. They also reviewed cooperation in joint projects between Oman and the FRG and the important role of the private sector in this regard. They also explored cooperation in agriculture, fisheries, vocational training, and health areas to raise efficiency in these sectors using German expertise. The two sides discussed the possibility of sending Omani cadres to the FRG for vocational training.

Sultan Qabus Congratulates PDRY, Benin Leaders

JN011638 Muscat 'UMAN in Arabic 30 Nov 86 p 1

[Text] Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, may God preserve him, has sent cables of congratulations to Abu Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the PDRY's Supreme People's Council Presidium, and to Beninese President Mathieu Kerekou on their countries' national days, wishing them continued health, happiness and progress and development for their respective peoples.

Sultan Cables UAE President

JN011640 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 1 Dec 86

["Text" of cable from Omani Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id to UAE President Shaykh Zayid ion Sultan Al Nuhayyan — date not given]

[Text] Your Highness Brother Shaykh Zayid Ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, UAE president, Abu Dhabi. We take the opportunity of the 15th anniversary of the UAE national day to send Your Highness our heartfelt congratulations and sincere wishes of good health and the UAE fraternal people further progress and prosperity. With my best regards.

[Signed] Your Brother Qabus ibn Sa'id

PDRY

Al-'Attas Addresses Nation on Independence Day

EA011835 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1612 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Speech by Haydar Abu Bakr Al-'Attas, chairman of the PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium, at the 'Abdallah Ba Dhib Institute in Aden on the occasion of the 19th anniversary of independence — live]

[Text] Lady Comrades, Comrades, Friends: Masses of our great Yemeni people. Apparent to us this day is the significance of the 19th anniversary of national independence, the fruit of the people's struggle and the struggle of the armed people which started with the 14 October revolution in 1963, under the leadership of the National Front. The revolution, which was first sparked off on the summits of the mountains of Radfan and [word indistinct], was the national extension of the revolution of 26 September 1962, in the northern part of the homeland. Then the aims of the revolutionary Yemenis united in the course of the struggle our people engaged in, against all the conspiracies and acts of aggression and reaction aimed at the 26 September revolution -- to bring about the extermination of the republican regime in the northern part of the homeland -- and at the struggle of our people in the southern part against British colonialism and its agent props.

We are pleased, on this glorious occasion, to congratulate our great Yemeni masses, on behalf of the Central Committee of our YSP and its political bureau, the Supreme People's Council Presidium and the Council of Ministers and to confirm our determination to achieve the goals of the glorious 14 October revolution, which comprise persevering to preserve national independence; entrenching the pillars of the authority of the Yemeni toilers; reinforcing its democratic and popular content; and pressing on along the path of the YSP to fulfill the tasks of the phase of national democratic revolution within its socialist parameters.

At this time so dear to our hearts, we would like to commemorate the martyrs of the revolution, who spilled their pure blood upon the soil of this precious homeland in defense of the principles and achievements of the revolution to ensure that its flag remains ever aloft [word indistinct]. The memory of our glorious martyrs will live forever in our minds and hearts and their glorious deeds, sacrifices, heroism and exemplary lives will remain as our incentive to escalate the struggle to protect the gains of the revolution within its broad horizons. It is also important for us to warmly greet the guests of our party and the guests of our country. We welcome the chairmen and delegations of the Arab committees for African and Asian Solidarity who have joined us in this celebration, and we emphasize our keenness to support the Arab solidarity movement in achieving its noble goals.

On 30 November 1967, the glorious 14 October revolution set out toward a new stage characterized by wide horizons, rich expertise, great lessons, progressive achievements and popular revolutionary traditions.

We still remember how colonialism and its agents, backed by revisionist and opportunist forces, laid their bets, right from the beginning, on the failure of the revolution. They said it was no more than an armed tribal rising that could be contained by the huge military machine of the occupying British Army. The colonialists tried to fulfill those assumptions by launching air raids and organizing military campaigns against the positions of the People's Liberation Army, in a bid to eliminate the revolution and stop it from spreading.

But the revolution remained steadfast by virtue of the firmness and awareness of its historic leaders and its stubborn fighters and by virtue of the fact that the poor masses rallied to the revolution and its leading political organization. The revolution went ahead, achieving victory after victory in the towns and countryside. Its popular base became more powerful and extended. It was able to occupy a prominent place in the Arab national and international liberation movement since it was a national democratic revolution that embodied the interests and aspirations of the toiling class.

Our national independence did not come about through bargaining and half-measures. It did not come about through highhandedness, remote from the movement of the toiling masses, or as a result of other defeatist methods that opportunist and revisionist political forces were propagating, with the support of the colonialists and their agents.

On the contrary, it was achieved through long struggle and tedious sufferings, and through immense sacrifices made by the Yemeni revolutionaries and the masses of the people during the People's Liberation War in the cities and the countrysides. This was a war in which the toilers of our people added brilliant pages to the record of our country's recent history since defeat after defeat was inflicted upon the occupying British forces, which could not withstand the blows of the heroes of our People's Liberation Army in the countryside and the cells of freedom fighters in the cities. They were driven out forever. Subsequently, the victorious revolutionary star rose in our skies, the star which radiated hope for all Arab revolutionaries on the eve of 5 June 1967. Since that day, that star has continued to shine. Its brightness is increasing and expanding in our new life. Our devoted revolutionary star has not faded despite the winds and storms of the malicious and spiteful conspiracies that aimed to restore the [word indistinct] night.

Dear comrades, even though we are today experiencing the joys of celebrating the 19th anniversary of national independence and the beginning of the 20th year since that event, we feel sadness and pain over the absence of a large number of prominent, historic leaders of the revolution who were in the vanguard of the makers of this national independence. But, dear friends, they are still among us, living in our minds and consciences. They are eternal by virtue of the great achievements in the making, securing and developing of our nation, in which they performed a leading role.

Our party, peolple and revolution incurred huge losses at the hands of those who carried out the 13 January bloody conspiracy, planned and led by the conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his gang when they set out on the morning of that black day to organize the huge and bloody massacres. A large number of the revolution's historic leaders, fighters in the People's Liberation War, and the party's civilian and military cadres fell victim in these massacres.

They included first and foremost the glorious martyrs, 'Abd al-Fattah Ismail, the immortal thinker [applause] and founder of our party; 'Ali Ahmad Nasir Antar, the bold leader of our People's Liberation Army [applause], the hero of the battles for freedom and independence and the builder of our Armed Forces; Salih Muslih Qasim [applause], the daring Yemeni hero and the unique warrior and fighter for the freedom, progress and unity of our people; and 'Ali Shayi Hadi, the wielder of the rifle in battle, whose brave voice expressed the interests, aspirations and desires of the Yemeni toilers and other martyrs.

The conspirators thought they could extinguish the flame of the revolution and divert it from its socialist course by imposing horrific physicial sacrifices upon its historic leaders and experienced fighters. But they forgot that Fattah, Antar, Muslih and Shayi were national symbols of our people's struggle and were an integral part of the cause of the Yemeni toilers. The Yemeni toilers, headed everywhere by the fighters of our vanguard party, the YSP, fought an unprecedentedly heroic battle, which today occupies brilliant pages in the record of our recent national history. They brought down the conspiracy and raised high the banner of Fattah, Antar, Muslih and Shayi [applause], the banner of the Yemeni working class and its successors. They inflicted permanent disgrace on the traitors and conspirators whose hands are stained with the blood of the fighters of our party and people. Today, we have the right to be proud of our success in foiling the dreadful, bloody conspiracy.

We also have the right to boast of the wide successes achieved in eliminating the consequences of the conspiracy and rebuilding the things destroyed by the conspirators. This was achieved through the citizens' participation in the repair of damage and reconstruction in the capital, Aden, and through appropriate steps and measures taken by the party and state leadership to consolidate the national unity of the people. The public amnesty embodies the party and state leadership's wish to heal the wounds and restore confidence.

In accordance with this decision, the great majority of the detainees involved in events arising out of the 13 January bloody conspiracy were released. Many of those who fled, who were misled by the leaders of the conspiracy, or were thrown into concentration camps to stop them from returning home and living in peace and stability with their relatives and families, returned. These people were used as cheap tools to achieve the goals and ambitions of the conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his bloody gang, who attempted to seize power and absolute authority. Despite the black propaganda being put about by the conspirators, with the support and backing of media hostile to our regime and party, the true reality is being revealed day after day. Our party and progressive system is growing in power and firmness and its roots are becoming deeper. The success of the elections to the Supreme People's Council and local councils was received by the masses of our people with unmatched enthusiasm. They reaffirmed the depth of mass support for our party and progressive system and proved the bankruptcy of the conspirators, who these days are maneuvering in different ways, manufacturing sick lies. In doing so, they expose themselves as a gang of outcasts detached from reality and powerless to do anything except attempt to reverse the course of history.

They are not skilled in anything other than political fickleness and hypocrisy and trade in the lives of innocents suffering the pains of vagrancy and wretchedness, while the conspirators lead a luxurious and shameless life at the expense of the pain and suffering of the misled and the deceived people, and at the expense of the families of martyrs, those killed and handicapped and the orphans, widows, widowers and dependents. The primary responsibility for the sufferings and pains of these people is borne by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his gang. We shall continue to look after the misled and martyrs' families in the way we look after the pupils of our eyes [applause]. And if the conspirators have encountered the bitterness of ignominious defeat and are faced with permanent disgrace, they have been driven by their insane criminal tendencies, today, to try once again to revert to massacre and bloody terrorism with their new attempts to send a member of gangs of saboteurs and terrorists, equipped with arms and explosives aimed at killing women, children, old people, youths and men from the sons of our people.

An end has been put to those gangs of saboteurs and terrorists, arrested by virtue of the alertness of our security services, which are vigilant in guarding the security of the nation and the gains of the revolution. They will meet their just punishment so they will be a lesson to all those with sick souls who are seduced into damaging the peace and security of the nation and citizens. Now, such terrorist attempts are not new to our party, people and revolution. We experienced them in the course of our opposition to the class enemy since our independence. We emerged and will always emerge powerful and victorious and would like strongly to warn all those being urged by the conspirators to try to carry out sabotage and terrorist activities.

We warn them of the black fate that awaits them and which was the fate of those who preceded them in treachery, conspiracy and terrorism. That is because the enemies of the revolution are not interested in the lives of such misled people and deceived ones who are being urged to die at a cheap price. They are also not interested in the lives of their own families and children because to them they are only tools for achieving their sick desire, and who have already paid for it.

There are a lot of lessons that must be applied. We will strike with an iron fist all those who dare to act against the sovereignty, security, and stability of the nation and the people [applause]. Accordingly, the gangs of saboteurs and terrorists arrested will face the verdict of the constitutional court before which they will appear, just like those before them who planned and executed the 13 January bloody conspiracy and what accrued from it — bloody massacre, killing, and sabotage against the party, nation and people.

At the same time, we hail the cooperation between the citizens and the security services and the cooperation given by many of those who continue to return to their homeland. We express our satisfaction at the increasing number of returnees. We stress our firm determination to provide them with all forms of care until they are able to participate in the building of the homeland. In this regard, it is appropriate to appeal once again to all the misguided brothers, inclduing those who were decieved and imprisoned in camps by the conspirators, to join those who preceded them in returning under the terms of the general amnesty.

Lady comrades, comrades and friends, with the arrival of the 20th year of national independence, the ongoing revolutionary process in our country, under the leadership of the YSP, undergoes an important development because this is now the phase of national democratic revolution. The sum total of the achievements and broad revolutionary successes realized in our country since national independence have contributed to strengthening the pillars of the toilers' powers, deepening its democratic and popular content, and achieving a number of profound revolutionary and progressive changes for the benefit of the broadest toiling masses of the people. This, in turn, has reinforced the pillars of our national independence, anchored our progressive system, and reinforced the method of socialist orientation in our country.

It is beyond dispute, comrades, that all these achievements and victories were achieved by virtue of the struggle our party guided through the different phases of its rise and development, in the fight against colonialism and the regime of its agent sultans; against the legacy of severe backwardness that we inherited from the moribund era; against all forms of conspiracy and sabotage on the part of internal and external reactionary forces, supported by their imperialist masters. The decisive role in achieveing all these achievements, successes and victories is attributable to the correct revolutionary method of our YSP, which expresses the fundamental class interests of the toiling masses, and to the cohesion of these masses around the party and their wide participation in implementing its policies and defending the revolution and the progressive system. We doi not exaggerate when we say the unity [word indistinct] of the party and the people, being strengthened day by day, constitutes a firm guarantee for continuing the ongoing revolutionary process in our country, and achieving its great goals on the road toward the socialist system that all the toilers in our good land aspire to.

Our party has always accorded the utmost importance to the participation of the popular masses in the management of society's affairs and the development of the national economy. The documents and literature of our party stress that the continued development of mass participation in the political and economic life of society is considered an indispensable condition for deepening the democratic and popular content of national power and a guarantee that it embodies the toilers' interests.

Our party has also paid great attention to the application of principles and practical and democratic methods for the management of the economic and social operations that governmental services are undertaking in the course of implementing party policy and involving the popular masses in their implementation. At the same time, the workers, who exercise control over the activity of governmental services in different economic fields, have played an important role in involving toilers in the implementation of party policy. They have done this by ensuring that methods of implementation are appropriate and exercising various forms of accountability, education, criticism and self-criticism to anchor the pillars of the toilers power and protect the progressive achievements realized by the blood and sweat of the popular masses.

The election of the Supreme People's Council and the local People's Councils constituted a new starting point in awakening the toilers' struggle and increasing their contribution to the management of the state and society's affairs.

On the basis of experience and the practical results achieved in this field, it can be said that the wise and responsible work of state servoces has been a school in which the toilers of the country can learn ways and means of economic management and control, including improvement of the work of government services, by fighting bureaucratic inclinations, exposing various symptoms of economic and ideological destruction, and confronting all attempts to cheat laws and systems.

The experience of the Supreme People's Council and the local People's Councils is one of the important assets available to the YSP in its leadership of the state, in addition to the party and mass activity undertaken by party organizations in the governorates and at all places of work and production. It is imperative for us, during the coming years, to exert maximum efforts to boost the operational methods of state corporations and the governmental apparatus and to step up their activity, so as to continue developing the economic infrastructure, implementing economic, social and cultural plans and programs, unifying control, abiding by the system and reinforcing a sense of national responsibility for the vital interests of the [word indistinct]

Lady comrades, comrades, the independence of the southern part of the homeland was a progressive step forward in the struggle against the division that British colonialism and the (?imams) regime and the sultan's [word indistinct]. After the southern part of the homeland became independent, (?more than) 22 sultanates, emirates and areas were united under a national and central authority as a step towards reunification of the Yemeni homeland, its soil, and its people. And despite the extent of internal and external conspiracies, and the difficulties that surrounded the struggle of the nationalist Yemenis for Yemeni unity, the last 19 years have seen the emergence of unitary forms that have contributed to bonds of unity between the leaderships of the two parts; to strengthening the atmosphere of peace in the Yemeni arena; and to the implementation of several measures to eliminate the various obstacles to unity: for example, the signing of the Cairo, Tripoli, Kuwait, Sana'a, and Aden agreements; the establishment of unity committees and certain joint institutions and companies; and the provision of wide facilities in the fields of commercial exchange and the movement of the citizens between the two parts. Moreover, coordination between the leaderships of the two parts on Arab and international issues started to expand and develop.

The establishment of the Higher Yemeni Council and the Joint Ministerial Committee did much to improve and reinforce modes of unitary action. All these successes embodied the collective will of the two parts' leaderships and expressed the higher interests of the people and homeland. It is clear that the (?policy) method of the southern part of the homeland, regarding the issue of unity, arose from the application of our party's documents and resolutions and the work of its leading councils. We will firmly continue implementing the policy of our party as outlined in its documents, literature and resolutions, since we regard this as an irrevocable national option of which there can be no revocation. We affirm our [word indistinct] resolve to continue exerting the utmost efforts for unity with our brothers in the northern part of the homeland with the aim of reinforcing and encouraging established forms of unity; increasing their activity; continuing with moves to expand economic integration and commercial exchange; setting up pillars of security and stability in the entire Yemeni arena; and coordinating development efforts the political stands between the leaderships of the two parts toward restoring the unity of the Yemeni homeland by peaceful and democratic means. We are confident of our ability, through cooperation and coordination with our brothers in the northern homeland, to advance the progress of peaceful efforts for unity in a manner that meets aspirations of our Yemeni people in progess and unity.

Comrades, the Arab area is now witnessing a feverish escalation of conspiratorial and aggressive moves by imperialist and Zionist circles to shake the stability of the Arab arena, to deny our Arab peoples their right, and to restore colonial hegemony over them, so obstructing their progress and prosperity. The aggressive and expansionist policy of the allied imperialist and Zionist forces has taken a dangerous direction, represented by armed acts of aggression against Libya, the escalation of aggressive threats against Syria, the intensification of conspiracies against the Palestinian revolution, and attempts by the U.S. Administration to encourage arms and finance the forces of reaction with the aim of reviving aggressive activity against Democratic Yemen. To this should be added attempts to revive reactionary activity hostile to Algeria. In the perilous circumstances now surrounding the Arab arena, there is now, more than any time in the past, a need to reinforce the unity of the Arab national liberation movement, as represented by various regimes and nationalist and progressive factions; to mass the capabilities of all the Arab countries; to confront the imperialist and Zionist onslaught; and to adopt a unified Arab policy equal to the challenges that confront our Arab peoples and nation.

As we celebrate our country's independence day, which coincides with the world day of solidarity with the Palestinian people, we warmly great our Palestinian people and their revolution, and all the peoples who celebrate today out of solidarity with their just case. We stress our resolve to continue with efforts to contribute shaping Palestinian national unity, within the framework of the PLO and on the basis of its program hostile to imperialist and Zionism. We will strive to ensure that the Palestinian arena avoids the dangers of fragmentation and division by which the enemies of the Palestinian people seek to eliminate the Palestinian revolution and to impose defeatist solutions aimed at denying the Palestinian people their rights; above all their right to return to their homeland and their right to self-determination and an independent national state.

Our country will also continue to support all efforts to unify the Arab ranks on the basis of Arab solidarity hostile to imperialism and Zionism, including the efforts to convene an Arab summit conference. To this end, we will spare no effort to strengthening the ties of fraternal cooperation with all the sisterly Arab countries, particularly neighboring countries, on the basis of mutual respect, constructive cooperation and noninterference in internal affairs, and in a manner that contributes to reinforcing security and stability in our region and serves the joint interests of our peoples.

We would like, in this regard, to express our concern over the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war. This war has reached a dangerous level, which could do more damage to the interests of the two warring countries and to the security and stability of our area. Our country has opposed this war since it broke out. We have called and are still calling for it to stop and for the differences between the two warring countries to be settled by peaceful means.

At the same time, we strongly condemn the act of aggression that the oil installations in the (abi al-Bukush) field in the fraternal state of the United Arab Emirates were subjected to. This was an extension of the aggressive onslaught to which fraternal Kuwait has already been subjected. It confirms the serious dangers likely to result from the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war. We stress our brotherly solidarity with the fraternal Arab Emirates and with any Arab state whose territory and sovereignty are exposed to foreign aggression.

Also, we would like to express our concern regarding the armed acts of aggression to which the Palestinian camps in Lebanon are being subjected, on the part of the Amal militia. We would like to appeal to the warring parties to institute a cease-fire and lift the siege imposed on the Palestinian camps and residents of neighboring villages; to stop all restrictions that prevent them from being provided with food and medical supplies; and to direct the guns on the Zionist enemy occupying Lebanese territory, who plans to continue implementing his aggressive and expansionist policies against our Arab peoples and against our just Arab causes.

Lady comrades, comrades: In any important stage of our revolution and in any success we achieve in the course of the revolution's development, we cannot forget the honest internationalist support that the Soviet Union is providing to our country. The firm militant relations between Democratic Yemen and the Soviet Union continue to constitute a source of strength for the struggle of our party and people on the path of socialist orientation. The issue of purifying and strengthening these relations will remain the cornerstone of the foreign policy of our party and country.

We are pleased, on this glorious occasion, to send warm greetings to the party, people and government of the Soviet Union, stressing our loyalty to the ideals and principles of Yemeni-Soviet friendship and our determination that it should continue to flourish. We also want to thank the Soviet Union for its support for our just Arab causes and to reiterate our principled support for its peaceful policies, initiatives and proposals aimed at maintaining world peace, halting the arms race and supporting nuclear disarmament. [words indistinct] the dangers of total extinction.

At the same time, we greet all the friendly socialist countries, who are firmly strengthening their struggle for social progress to build the new [word indistinct]. Lady comrades, comrades: Once again [words indistinct] the occasion dear to our hearts, to struggle further along the path of the party, the path of the people, the path of defending the Yemeni revolution and implementing the 5-Year Plan and realizing Yemeni unity. Thank you.

Official Meets Iranian Envoy; Expresses Support

LD012041 Tehran IRNA in English 1828 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 1 IRNA — Deputy Prime Minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY) Salih Abu Bakr ibn Husaynun stressed Monday that his country has stood beside the Islamic revolution since its victory. He added that the PDRY'S stance is unchangeable.

In a meeting with Iranian ambassador to Aden Hasan AminiaN, the PDRY deputy premier mentioned the resistance of the Iranian and Yemenese nations for staging successful revolutions. He called for joint struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

The Iranian ambassador in reply said that the determining power of independent nations is a crucial factor for defeating the enemies' plots. He cited the Islamic revolution of Iran as a worthy example.

AminiaN also congratulated the Yemenese official on the occasion of that country's national day (November 13).

Views were also exchanged on mutual relations between the two countries.

Oil Exploration Agreement Signed With USSR

EA012227 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] A protocol for the third phase of oil and gas exploration in Shabwah area for the years 1987 to 1990 has been signed today between Democratic Yemen and the Soviet Union in the Ministry of Oil and Minerals building. The protocol entails geophysical and geological survey operations and digging oil wells to ascertain the oil and gas resources of the area.

Also, an agreement has been signed between Democratic yemen and the Soviet Union to finance exploration, according to which the soviet Union will provide our country with a loan of R130 million.

The protocol and agreement were signed by Brother Salih Abu Bakr Ibn Husaynun, member of the Central Committee, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of energy and minerals, on the Yemeni side. On the Soviet side it was signed by Comrade Yevgeniy Kozlovskiy, member of the Central Committee and minister of geology in the Soviet Union.

Following the signing, brother Salih Abu Bakr Ibn Husaynun made a speech in which he pointed out that the signing of the protocol and the agreement is regarded as an important step toward strengthening and developing the principled and strategic relations between our country and the Soviet Union. He appreciated the honest internationalist assistance that the Soviet Union continues to provide to our country in various fields of our national economy.

Comrade Yevgeniy delivered a speech in which he expressed his thanks and gratitude for the hospitality and warm reception that the delegation enjoyed during the visit. He praised the development and continuing growth of the principled relations linking the two friendly parties and countries, stressing the Soviet Union's support for our country in various fields and the need to make efforts to implement the programs on schedule.

The signing ceremony was attended by Brothers Mahmud Sa'id Madhi, member of the Central Committee and minister of finance; Faraj Ibn Ghanim, minister of planning; and Comrade Albert Archkov, candidate-member of the CPSU Central Committee and ambassador of the Soviet Union to Aden.

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd Urges End to Attacks on Palestinians

LD012307 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2125 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Dammam, 1 Dec (SPA) — Following the escalation of the continued bloody incidents against Palestinian camps in Lebanon, King Fahd this evening addressed an appeal to the warring forces in Lebanese territories around Palestinian refugee camps urging them to lay down arms, stop the bloodshed, and for the Arab Muslim hand to refrain from spilling the blood of his Arab Muslim brother.

He said the continuation of armed attacks on the sons of the Palestinian people in Lebanon has made a deep wound in the heart of the Arab and Islamic nation together. There is no doubt that the only benefactor from this bloody conflict is the Israeli enemy that is lying in wait for the two conflicting parties and for brotherly Lebanon.

King Fahd urged, in his appeal to all Lebanese patriotic forces and the authorities, to make efforts immediately to stop clashes, protect the camps, and disarm the aggressors. He also appealed to all brotherly Arab countries to do their utmost in this respect in order to safeguard the sons of the Palestinian people, defend their cause, and achieve their just demands.

Ugandan Foreign Minister Praises Visit

LD011851 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1618 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 1 Dec (SPA) — Ugandan Foreign Minister Ibrahim Mukiibi expressed his gratitude to King Fahd, to his well-guided government and to the Saudi people for the hospitality with which he was met during his visit to Saudi Arabia. [passage omitted]

At the beginning of a news conference in Riyadh today, he expressed his country's appreciation for the moral support and noble stance of Saudi Arabia toward the struggle of the Ugandan people for stability and to end the massacres there during the past 6 years.

The Ugandan foreign minister said the aims of his visit to Saudi Arabia included informing the Saudi officials about the current situation in Uganda. He pointed out this situation is currently secure and stable because of the policies adopted by the current government. The aim of the visit was also to bolster the traditional friendship between Saudi Arabia and Uganda and their peoples. [passage omitted]

UAE

President Receives Message From Yasir 'Arafat

JN011549 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1420 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 1 Dec (WAKH) — UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan received a message from PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat today dealing with the latest developments in the Lebanese arena, as well as with the situation in the camps. The message was conveyed by Khalid Malik, PLO office deputy head in Abu Dhabi, during his meetings with Shaykh Hamdan ibn Zaydi, UAE Foreign Ministry Under Secretary, here today.

Diplomatic Relations Established With Bolivia

JN020840 Manama WAKH in Arabic 2042 GMT 1 Nov 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 1 Dec (WAKH) — The governments of the UAE and the Republic of Bolivia have decided to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level as of 1 December 1986.

A joint statement issued on this occasion said the decision was inspired by a common desire to strengthen friendly relations and develop cooperation between the two countries.

Paper Says Attempt To Blow Up U.S. Embassy Foiled

PM011313 Cairo AL-SH'AB in Arabic 18 Nov 86 p 1

[Unattributed report: "News of Foiled Attempt To Blow Up U.S. Embassy"]

[Text] The security organs have foiled an attempt to blow up the U.S. Embassy in Cairo, defusing a high-explosive bomb just 15 minutes before it was due to explode. The bomb was in a private car near the embassy building in the Garden City district. Security services are making intensive investigations to reveal the mystery of the car.

Mubarak Receives Soviet Economic Delegation

NC020931 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0905 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Cairo, 2 Dec (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received at the Al-Qubbah Palace this morning the Soviet economic delegation led by Viktor Dementsev, chairman of the USSR State Bank. The meeting was also attended by Economy Minister Dr Yusri Mustafa; Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary at the Foreign Ministry and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs; and Soviet Ambassador in Cairo Gennadiy Znuravlev.

Tabah Delegation Head Leaves for Geneva

NC020714 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0620 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Cairo, 2 Dec (MENA) — Ambassador Nabil al-'Arabi, director of the legal department at the Foreign Ministry and head of the Egyptian delegation to the Tabah talks, left Cairo this morning for Geneva for a visit of several days. In a predeparture statement, Ambassador al-'Arabi said the purpose of his visit to Switzerland is to consult with the Swiss and with the chairman of the board of arbitration over certain organizational and procedural matters related to the Tabah arbitration, which will officially start on 10 December. There will be a preliminary session on 8 December to discuss various arrangements.

NPUG Issues Statement on Economic Crisis

PM011645 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 19 Nov 86 p 7

[NPUG statement issued "last week"]

[Text] The economic crisis has again erupted, sweeping away 'Ali Lutfi's government as it swept away Kamal Hasan 'Ali's government and will in the future sweep away every govenment that insists on adhering to the policies that produced the economic crisis and then increased its severity.

This was not an accidental or sudden crisis but the product of the group of policies laid down by Al-Sadat, especially the open-door economic policy. The crisis continued to expand and deepen in the years of Husni Mubarak's presidency as a result of the persistence with Al-Sadat's policies and the unwillingness and inability to make the money-hungry parasite classes bear the consequences of destructive policies.

When 'Ali Lutfi's government was formed in the early fall of last year, we warned against the developing preparations to accept U.S. pressures and the IMF's terms for solving the economic crisis. 'Ali Lutfi's government actually kept ignoring our warnings and, particularly in the face of the worsening economic crisis — because of the drop in oil prices — it imposed increasing burdens on the masses and middle classes. It began to seek aid and a way out from the United States, the IMF, and the World Bank, but all of them impose heavy terms, of which the following are the most important: increased prices, total abolition of subsidies, devaluation of the pound, an end to the provision of social services such as free education, health, and housing for the people, as well as an end to the recruitment of graduates.

The steps taken by successive governments do not solve anything; they do not solve the economic crisis, and they do not even solve the financial crisis, as the government imagines. On the contrary, they double the burdens on the masses and middle classes, while they double the advantages, privileges and the opportunities for wealth, robbery, and plunder for the parasitic and bureaucratic groups. At the same time they double the economy's subjection to foreign circles — the creditors and donors. Governments have also bowed to the parasites in the country and creditors abroad who demanded more concessions; this was announced by our party's Central Committee at its latest session 2 weeks ago. In fact, the IMF has come back and requested more concessions by demanding the complete abolition of real subsidies and the devaluation of the pound to half its official value. This has meant multiplying inflation rates, allowing prices to rise, and loading more burdens onto people who are already burdened and unhappy with what they are suffering: high prices and the widening of the gap between rich and poor. The bitter fruits of the open-door economic policy and the increased dependence on the outside world have continued: commodities production has slowed down; service activities have increased, especially the parasite services; and dependence on the outside world has doubled in order to secure food and weapons. Imports were released from controls and now total more than double the exports. The foreign debt has become an unbearable burden, reaching 38.6 billion dollars and with servicing of it in the current budget reaching 5.5 billion dollars. Egypt's economic surplus has been exhausted each year on paying interest to creditors among world capital at the expense of the Egyptians and the entire Egyptian economy.

This now means the distribution of national income in favor of international capitalism; it also places the whole Egyptian economy under the management of the big creditor countries, in particular the United States.

This is how the foreign debts have been transformed into a time bomb that explodes from time to time, sweeping away the existing government and bringing in another — less able, under the existing policies, to face the foreign debt crisis or solve the economic crisis.

The situation will remain thus as long as the governments are ready to respond, not to the urgent demands and requests of the people, but to the demands of the IMF abroad. Public opinion in our country has become less interested in changes of government. Changing a government does not help any more, since the problem is the method ofrule that protects the interests of parasites and bureaucrats and adheres to policies that can only worsen the economic crisis and that are rejected and resisted by the masses.

Whatever 'Atif Sidqi's intentions, whatever his efficiency, he cannot extricate Egypt from its economc crisis unless the current economic policies are changed.

Egypt needs another policy, a clear and direct policy of self-reliant independent development, a policy that includes a complete group of measures aimed at increasing production of commodities — especially food — fighting high costs, limiting imports, stopping foreign loans, protecting the value of the pound, and redistributing burdens among the classes according to their incomes and wealth. Egypt needs a policy of austerity to protect the living standards of the masses and middle classes from rapid deterioration, thus guaranteeing our attentive and free participation in rescuing the Egyptian economy and Egypt as a whole. This requires essential democratic changes.

The starting point for confronting the economic crisis is, in our view, a program of urgent economic reform. Our party, which has such a program and considers it the only alternative to the IMF program, calls on all the people and political powers to adopt it and struggle for its achievement.

Such a program must necessarily involve urgent executive measures, foremost among which are:

First: the abolition of the policy of imports without transfers of currency.

Second: stopping the import of luxury goods and unnecessary goods for 3 years.

Third: restricting food imports to companies in the public sector and the country.

Fourth: comprehensive reconsideration of tax exemptions granted to the open-door policy investors and their restriction to vital projects for the Egyptian economy.

Fifth: mobilization of national resources so as to increase the country's production capacity; protection of the savings of Egyptians working abroad from the tricks and speculation of currency traders and importers.

Sixth: national control, through the Central Bank, of all banks operating in Egypt regardless of their ownership; abolition of laws and resolutions that give some banks advantages that affect national sovereignty; reconsideration of the positions of foreign and joint banks and all investment companies to guarantee the soundness of their transactions and to protect the money of depositors and savers.

Seventh: the increase of wheat production and the achievement of self-sufficiency in corn and pulses by expanding the cultivated area and by increasing productivity; and the reconsideration of agricultural crop prices to ensure the highest profitability for the main food crops.

Eighth: reconsideration of Egypt's foreign debts and a call for an international conference on settling the developing countries' foreign debts in accordance with the recommendations made by the nonaligned countries in their latest conferences.

The NPUG, in presenting these urgent measures, is perfectly aware that any program for economic reform cannot succeed unless the masses accept it and want its implementation. It cannot be achieved except through the effective participation of the popular masses, their freely elected unions, and the political parties that they choose to join of their own free will; the masses must have confidence in the integrity of the general elections to ensure that their representatives can actually obtain seats in the People's Assembly and local councils to guard their interests. Therefore, our party not only warns against harming constitutional legitimacy, the law's sovereignty, or the limited democratic freedoms available at present but also calls the courage to take serious steps to revive political life, foremost among which are:

First: the lifting of the state of emergency declared more than 5 years ago, during which violence has doubled and repression and terrorism have increased.

Second: the abolition of the emergency laws restricting freedoms, above all the law on protecting the internal front; the abolition of all restrictions on the freedom to form political parties, trade unions, white collar unions, and associations and also the restrictions on their freedom to practice their activities.

Third: the abolition of the system of election by absolute or proportional party list in the laws for electing local councils and the People's Assembly; and the adoption of measures guaranteeing the freedom and integrity of elections by reviewing the law on the exercise of political rights.

All political and social powers — regardless of their different ideological directions and opinions about the form of the economy and society after they have been rescued from subjection and sabotage — must realize the truth of the crisis engulfing our country, specify their stand courageously, and shoulder their responsibilities, whether on the side of those who sabotage the national economy or on the side of those who desire reform.

Lutfi Affirms 'Freedom' of Egyptian Press

JN011209 Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic 29 Nov 86 p 5

[Interview with 'Ali Lutfi, speaker of the Consultative Council and chairman of the Supreme Press Council, by Sana' al-Sa'id in Cairo; date not given]

[Excerpts][passage omitted][Al-Sa'id]The stormy climate experienced by the press recently prompts us to pause and think, particularly as most of the accusations are levelled against the opposition press?

[Lutfi]The problem faced by some of the opposition papers is that they abuse the right of political freedom. By such abuse I mean that they attack many officials personally in an unobjective manner, and this is incompatible with our ethics and values. They pass judgment and make statements that have no basis, and consequently such papers sink into confusion.

I ask: Is this because the popular bases of the opposition parties is not solid? Or is it the desire to increase circulation by resorting to sensationalism? Such questions arise when diagnosing the state of the press today. It is important to answer such questions truthfully, objectively, and logically in a manner that is compatible with the economic and social challenges we are facing, and in a manner that strengthens and entrenches the democratic system which is a big popular gain that must be safeguarded and protected, and also in a manner that serves the interests of these papers and the aims of the political parties. [passage omitted]

[Al-Sa'id] Can one say that the multi-party system and the feuding among the parties have spoiled the press and encouraged it to adopt a caustic, scathing, and obdurate tone that deliberately destroys the gains and achievements? A press that can best be described as a press of slander and incitement?

[Lutfi] I do not agree with your accusations against the press. The press is a popular authority that carries out its role. The mistakes that occur are no more than a black spot on a white page, and do not diminish the importance of the press or the discharging of its mission. The mistakes that occur cannot be attributed to the majority of parties, for a multi-party system is a characteristic of democracy. The parties are the channels that enable different points of view to be expressed and enable political participation in the decisionmaking process by the representatives of the parties in the People's Assembly and Consultative Council, and injects vitality and awareness into political action. All these reasons make it necessary to preserve the multi-party system. As for the opposition parties indulging in certain abuses through their press, these parties need to reconsider their attitude for the sake of a sound democracy, so that our press will truly reflect our national concerns and issues.

[Al-Sa'id] That means you do not agree with those who believe that our press is passing through a transition period where the picture appears to be unclear, shaky, changing, and incomplete?

[Lutfi] In general our press is in a good state. The opposition press is guilty of certain abuses and of refusing to understand the nature of the challenges we are facing, but that does not change my view that our press is in a good state as long as it respects the freedom of expression — and this also applies to the national press. The press must face the problems we are facing now, problems that have accumulated over many years. A united view and concerted efforts are need to confront these problems and find radical solutions to them so that we can all commit ourselves to a single, firm national stand on these problems. In the present stage of building we need cohesion among all the various views and trends, and no one should try to poison the atmosphere by vituperations, abuses, and insignificant issues. [passage omitted]

[Al-Sa'id] Some people are calling for the amendment or cancellation of the press law, claiming that it is no longer capable of coping with developments in Egypt. What is your view?

[Lutfi] Contrary to what some people believe — and I am sure they are in a minority — the press law is fully compatible with the development of Egyptian society. The law states that the press is an independent popular authority that exercises its mission freely in the service of society, and that such a freedom aims to create a free climate through enlightened knowledge and a contribution to better solutions in everything connected with the interests of the country and the citizens. Does not law safeguard and consolidate one of the pillars of democracy in Egypt? [passage omitted]

[Al-Sa'id] Doubts are being expressed and accusations levelled regarding the relationship between the national press and the authorities. The opposition claims that the authorities monitor what is said and give the green light for the publication of what they want, and hence it is the authorities who control what is published in Egypt?

[Lutfi] There is no place for such doubts. If some people express such doubts it is because it is in their nature to doubt everything. A quick glance at what is published in the national press — be it news reportage, opinion columns, or cartoons — will illustrate the extent of the writer's freedom to express his view without censorship. What I am saying is a fact seen daily in the press. As for the green light the authorities may give so their views will be disseminated, there is no such thing. However, there is a kind of clarification: It is important that the press should be regularly informed about the national developments and concerns of which the state wants the citizens to be aware. Such a clarification is not peculiar to us, but is made by all states, including democratic states. I want to reaffirm that such a clarification does not mean censorship, or giving a green or a red light, but aims to put the national press and the government on the same wavelength for understanding our national affairs. The clarification, therefore, does not mean censorship or mandatory publishing, but is merely participation in the achievement of the same policies and objectives.

[Al-Sa'id] Is there really a plan under study that will prohibit working for both the national and the Arab press?

[Lutfi] These are mere rumors, and there is no truth in them. If there is such a plan I would like those who spread such rumors to tell me about it.

[Al-Sa'id] It is alleged that what really spoiled our press is the phenomenon of combining work for both the Egyptian press and the Arab press. Will Article 44 of the press law, which states that it is the prerogative of the Supreme Press Council to give permission to journalists who wish to work for a foreign organization, on condition that they obtain the approval of the institution for whom they are working, be reviewed?

[Lutfi] First of all I want to say it is a source of pride to have Egyptian writers airing their views in the Arab press. That in itself illustrates Egypt's leading intellectual role in the Arab world. Indeed, the bright spots in many Arab newspapers can be attributed to contributions by Egyptian writers. Cosequently, it is necessary to distinguish between two situations: the situation of patriotic and national contribution — which is a constructive source of pride that enriches the Arab press in general — and the situation of those who falsely attack and slander Egypt in the Arab press — which is regrettable and sad. Those who indulge in the latter harm both themselves and their country. I do not wish to say more at present. [passage omitted]

Coptic Pope Interviewed on Religious Issues

JN301316 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 27 Nov 86 p 3

[Interview with Coptic Pope Shinudah by Bayyumi Qandil — date and place not given]

[Text] [Qandil] The 1919 revolution was the greatest in the British colonies at that time. It united the Muslim and Christian Egyptians in facing the British. The political literature at the time expressed this phenomenon by referring to the unity of the nation's two elements. In my opinion, the Egyptian nation is composed of one rather than two elements. What is your opinion?

[Shinudah] I am also inclined to say that the Egyptians are composed of one element, be they Muslims or Christians. The great unity between the two communities has wiped out all anthropoligical, national, and cultural differences between them. Even the names they give to children are the same except for a few distinctive names. The reference to the Egyptians as two elements was intended to indicate the two religions. They are the same, belonging to the same homeland and the same nationalism.

[Quandil] Since it was introduced into Egypt, the Christian religion acquired Egyptian features and traits. Historically, we know that the translation of the bible from the Greek into the Coptic language was a manifestation of the Egyptian resistance to the Greek occupation. However, we notice that the recent sectarian currents that are trying to shake the historical unity between the two communities started with sectarian slogans from one side and a reaction to these slogans with slogans from the other side. Nobody could raise a slogan of unity such as: Religion is for God; the Homeland is for all. I wonder why this is.

[Shinudah] The Egyptian Copts have been adhering to their Egyptian nationalism since ancient times and are still doing so. When religious divisions occurred in the Christian world, the Copts in Egypt adhered to their special characteristics, which are different from those of the Greek, or what is called the eastern Roman state. When Islam came to Egypt, the Coptic patriarch "Binyamin" had been banished for 13 years by orders of the Roman [Byzantine] state. He was reinstated by 'Amr ibn al-'As when he conquered Egypt. Relations were good between the Muslims and Christians. In recent history, the Muslims and Christians were united in fighting the British occupation. Nobody said the British were Christians. Both the Copts and the Muslims considered them foreign occupiers of the country, and thought that they should go. Before that and during the crusades, the Copts and the Muslims were in one trench against the crusaders.

Therefore, the important factor was not religion but Egyptian nationalism. We continue to look on our country as Egypt, which all of us, regardless of religion, should protect. In the Army, all have the same feelings and thoughts, and all aim to win victory for Egypt. The Copts strongly opposed some Vatican decisions, especially the recent decision to absolve the Jews of killing Christ. I was among those who wrote much and spoke much in major forums against this move. At that time this issue was not a matter of Christians or non-Christians. Even when the Sunday schools were established, they were intended to teach the Christians the principles of their religion so they would not be misled by western missionary movements in Egypt.

[Qandil] Some people say that the Coptic Church calls for establishing a Coptic state in Asyut. How true is this?

[Shinudah] The problem arose when a secret document purporting to be signed by Pope Shinudah III appeared in March 1972. This contains unreasonable and imaginary things. However, this publication spread on a wide scale. This prompted the government to appoint a fact-finding committee under Dr Jamal al-Ding al-'Atifi. The committee issued a report on its finding, concluding that the document was clearly fabricated. There the issue rested at that time. However the issue was revived again in some books that republished both the document and what were called voice recordings. If these recordings were genuine, they would have been released during previous crises. Then came the issue that was raised by the late president [Al-Sadat] on what he heard concerning the call for establishing a Coptic state in Asyut or what was presented to Pope Kirolos when he visited Ethiopia. Of course, we do not know — in fact nobody knows — who presented the issue and what its aim was. No Copt or Egyptian heard about this subject. In this regard, I would like to make some observations:

1. Is it possible for the Copts to leave all their holy places in the various parts of Egypt and confine themselves to Asyut? Is it possible for them to abandon Wadi al-Natrun and the places that Jesus' family visited during its visit to Egypt, the Coptic patriarchate in Al-Inba Runways in Al-'Abbasiyah, the Virgin's Church in Al-Zaytun, and the Al-Jabal al-Ahmar monasteries, which date back to the 4th century and which are the most ancient monasteries in the world?

2. Is it not possible to guarantee the security of the Copts by their merging with their Muslim brethren in everything? Can anyone imagine that Copts are so stupid as to congregate in one area so it would be easy to attack them if someone wanted to do that? The security of the Copts is guaranteed by merging with their Muslim brethren everywhere: in the school, hospital, factory, street, and house. Nobody would harm them then, because if he did he would also be harming others. Moreover, it is difficult for Copts to give up their cordial relations and social ties with their Muslim brethren everywhere in Egypt. I personally was breast-fed by Muslim and Christian women as a child. My mother died while I was an infant. Therefore, I have Muslim and Christian foster brothers.

3. Is it conceivable for Egypt to be divided into three states: a state north of Asyut, Asyut itself, and a state south of Asyut? This is sheer imagination. But such talk in the days of the late President Anwar al-Sadat had an effect on some people and was exploited by others. Nobody can provide proof. However, spreading claims on a large scale without evidence created harmful delusions.

4. Is it conceivable for the Asyut Muslims to leave their mosques, factories, stores, houses, lands, cemeteries of their fathers and

forefathers, and all that is dear to them to the Copts, despite the fact that every man has the natural right to adhere to his country, land, and properties? The Coptic Church is a national church that does not have any leadership outside Egypt. The historical name of this church is the Church of Alexandria.

[Qandil] It has been reiterated that the Coptic Church is telling its followers not to practice birth control; how true is this?

[Shinudah] The Church has never opposed birth control. Egyptian Christians or Copts are practicing birth control according to their own conscience and without the need for any church instructions. In fact, birth control has become an economic, social, and national necessity. The increase in population has become a heavy burden on the state as it adversely affects the provision of housing, food supplies, and job opportunities. We have in our patriarchate a public service bishopric whose task is to oversee family planning and enlighten citizens everywhere in the republic on family planning in cooperation with the international organization FPLA. [preceding word in English] It is in Egypt's interest to carry out family planning according to its resources. As you know, Christianity has laws on priesthood, celebacy, and chastity that prevent marital relations during fasting days, which amount to half a year.

[Qandil] What is your position on the application of Islamic Shari'a in Egypt?

[Shinudah] Islamic Shari'a is currently the subject of a dialogue among our Muslim brothers. We are awaiting the results of this dialogue. As far as we Christians are concerned, the important thing is how Christians will be treated under the Islamic Shari'a. They need to reassure us not only on the social level, but also on the legal level. Would the application of the Shari'a reduce our rights as citizens or deprive us of equal rights? When a debate started on article two of the present constitution, we requested the following addition to the article: As far as non-Muslims are concerned, there should be no coercion in religion. They should enjoy complete equality as other citizens. Their laws should apply on matters dealing with personal status and so forth. We have noted for instance that even the new Iranian constitution announced by the Islamic Republic recognizes in Article 13, which deals with the religion of the state, the rights of the other religious minorities including the followers of Zaradesht.

[Qandil] What are the latest developments in the Dayr al-Sultan case?

[Shinudah] Dayr al-Sultan has been the property of the Copts for several centuries. What happened could be summed up as follows: While our Coptic bishop was performing Easter prayers in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher on 25 April 1970, Israeli policemen attacked the monastery, seized it, and gave it to Ethiopian clergymen. They then changed the locks and keys and prevented the Coptic bishop from entering the monastery. We filed a case against them before the Israeli Higher Court, which ruled in our favor and condemned the Israeli minister of police. But the Israeli government did not carry out the Court's ruling, considering it a political rather than a legal issue. Thus, since then the Ethiopian clergymen have seized the monastery by force. Since then also, our bishop has been trying hard to regain the monastery. Many promises were given, but nothing was done. The matter has been frozen for years. For our part, we have stopped pilgrimage to Jerusalem as long as the monastery is occupied. Recently, some people contacted me by telephone suggesting a meeting with an Israeli official. I told them: If this official has anything new to say, then he should say it to the Egyptian Foreign Ministry, which will then relay it to me.

[Qandil] Are there any common bases between the two main religions in Egypt, Islam and Christianity, to make it possible to produce a book that could be taught to all Egyptian students without any discrimination between Muslim or Christian?

[Shinudah] Undoubtedly, there are several common points, such as belief in the one God, the life hereafter, reward and punishment, prophesy, miracles, and all virtues. It could be possible to produce a book that covers all these common points but that does not touch on religious differences. I proposed such a book during the 1977 meeting of Muslim and Christian leaders in 'Abidin Palace. President Anwar al-Sadat approved the idea, but it was not possible to carry it out even as a form of general knowledge outside the school curriculula.

AL-AHALI Criticizes Mubarak Speech, Government

PM281515 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 19 Nov 86 p 1

[Editorial: "Criticism and Opposition...a Crime"]

[Text] The general political conditions and issues of democracy were the central theme of the president's speech at the opening of the new session of the People's Assembly and Consultative Council last Wednesday, because by necessity these issues reflect on the economic situation and on Arab and foreign relations, as the president said.

While agreeing with the president on the importance of political and democratic issues, we cannot but disagree with what the president said in his speech. We cannot discuss what he said in this speech about democracy, the parties, and the press without noting what the president said about the same issues 8 days earlier during his meeting with the press. The contents of the two speeches were totally different.

The president told the People's Assembly and Consultative Council that Egypt is all the parties and the national and partisan press put together, and that Egyptian patriotism is not confined to one group to the exclusion of another.

Eight days earlier the president accused the leaders of the opposition parties of running the parties to serve their own interests. He charged that their campaigns against the government are linked to their own market and business interests, that the opposition parties and press are financed from foreign sources, and that 90 percent of what is published in the opposition press are lies with no useful information or solutions to the problems.

Which of the two statements are we to believe and which is to be the basis of dealing and dialogue?

The most important political aspect of the speech was its interpretation of criticism and of the causes of the crisis, with which we disagree completely.

The president considers talking about the armed forces, condemning the police excesses and the spreading phenomenon of torture in prisons, opposing executive authority decisions, exposing corruption, supporting the right to peaceful strikes, and urging the enshrinement of that right in law to be expressions of aggression against the legitimate institutions, an affront to the great responsibility undertaken by our armed forces, an attempt to shake confidence in the security organs and portray society as corrupt and immoral, and an attempt to incite and instigate. This is a dangerous interpretation which turns criticism and opposition into a crime.

The president attributes the crisis of democracy to partisanship, insults and attacks on the state's legitimate institutions, and the transformation of dialogue into quarrel, friction, and abuse. This very interpretation is the cause of all our crises because it concentrates on peripheral aspects and ignores the real issues.

Our crisis is an outcome of the ready-made institutions that legislate and execute — which, because they are the product of forgery and rigged elections, have lost all credibility with the public. They are institutions which rely on a laws that restrict freedom and violate human rights and the Constitution in order to protect their own existence and continuity.

The rulers' continued disregard for the real causes of the crisis and their search for unreal causes close the door to any development and confirms that the battle will be difficult and long.

Trade Unions Criticize Government Changes

PM011041 Cairo AL-SH'AB in Arabic 18 Nov 86 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Egypt's Workers Affirm to the Ruling Party the Independence of the Trade Union Movement"]

[Text] Egypt's General Federation of Trade Unions held last Wednesday an emergency meeting attended by the federation's board of directors, heads of general unions, and heads of local unions in order to discuss the recent political changes. A mood of great anger pervaded the meeting because the union movement was ignored in the recent changes. Opposition to the NDP was the prevailing tone. The union leaderships were angered by the removal of Mahmud Dabbur from the position of People's Assembly deputy speaker, as he is a representative of the union movement of workers and farmers.

The removal of Sa'd Muhammad Ahmad from the cabinet was attributed to his stands in favor of the public sector, and since a heated dispute took place between Minister of Tourism Fu'ad Sultan and Sa'd Muhammad Ahmad, some conclude that the NDP took the side of the former, who continued in the cabinet.

The General Federation of Trade Unions issued at the expanded meeting, which they described as historical, a statement that the newspapers have not published, which forced the federation to publish it as a paid advertisement in Al-Akhbar and Al-Jumhuriyah. The statement confirmed the union movement's independence from the parties and stated that the trade unionist organizations are elected organizations and that they are the most harmonious organizations.

Saddam Husayn: Iran Arms Deal 'Expected'

JN011819 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1605 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Speech by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn at 1 December ceremony in Baghdad to award a group of families with the Martyr's Medal on martyr day — recorded]

[Excerpts] Every year, Iraq and all the Iraqi people, including the Iraqi command, celebrate a special day and hold a special ceremony to commemorate our righteous martyrs. [Passage omitted]

I am sure some of you do not read as we ourselves read and do not follow up as we do the behavior of the Iranian rulers and their policies. For the past 7 or 8 years, we have been hearing that the main slogan in Iran is talk about the arch Satan and when they are asked who is the arch Satan, they reply the United States is the arch Satan. They also used to raise slogans on the battlefront to brainfwash those they send to the front to fight ght Iraqi Army. They used to tell them: You have to occupy Iraq because without Iraq's occupation it is impossible to liberate Jerusalem. By doing this, they try to create a certain romanticism about holy Jerusalem and its special status in the hearts of some Iranians. We have repeatedly told them that if you want to liberate Jerusalem you can pass through Iraq but not as occupiers.

However, after 7 years of the war, the world wakes up to discover shameful details about the special and dirty cooperation between U.S. organs and the Zionist entity — a cooperation with those claiming to be patriotic Muslims and those claiming to seek the Liberation of Jerusalem. This is their true nature. They could not deceive or dupe us. But if some of you will go back 7 or 8 years ago, you will remember how many in the Arab homeland and the Islamic community were deceived into believing Iran would have good intentions. Some expected the Iranians would really establish an Islamic state and that instead of being the Arabs' opponent they would help them in arenas of struggle and in confronting the Zionist entity.

However, we were not deceived. In accordance with our own analysis, which has now come to pass and which the world has now discovered, we were expecting this to take place before now. Officially, it has been taking place for the past 18 months, while some say it has been taking place for the past 7 years. However, we expected this movement would assume power in Iran 4 months before they came to power. We also expected that their first evil deed would be against Iraq. We expected this on the basis of our analysis of circumstances in the region and of the march of the revolution in terms of construction, forming the new Iraqi individual, making him happy, and establishing a new society in Iraq, and also on the basis of our own analysis of circumstances that Arab nations experience. We deduced that the shah would be toppled and that Khomeyni would come to power and that the first task he would carry out would be to antagonize Iraq and wage war against Iraq. We expected this cooperation between Israel and the Iranian regime because this type of regime which raises flamboyant slogans and speaks loudly is not a strange thing to us. We have experienced such regimes in our Arab and Iraqi history and later discovered that they are charlatans and forgerers. That's why before 1 year of the war went by we started calling Khomeyni a charlatan. A majority of Iranians now say Khomeyni is a charlatan. [passage omitted]

Faraj: Morale 'Not Affected' By U.S.-Iran Deal

PM011155 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic
28 Nov 86 p 2

[Unattributed report: "The Iraqi Planning Minister Tells *Al-Sharq al-Awsat*: The U.S.-Iranian Deal Has Not Affected Iraq"]

[Text] Amman — Iraqi Planning Minister Dr Samal Majid Faraj has emphasized that the U.S. military aid to Iran has not affected the Iraqi people's high morale and that there is complete conviction that Iraqi combat and defense capabilities are far superior to those of Iran. The best proof of that, he said, is the fact that Iraq has effectively repulsed all Iran's repeated attacks and dashed all Iran's hopes of harming Iraq and storming its cities.

In an exclusive statement to *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* during his visit to Amman the Iraqi minister urged the Arab states to stand more firmly and seriously than ever before "with Iraq in order to put an end to this aggressive war and to bury all kinds of plots against the Arab nation, especially this clear U.S. conspiracy against Iraq with Israel's participation."

He said that the U.S. military aid to Iran once again provides evidence of the negative and even aggressive intentions not only against Iraq but also against the entire Arab nation.

In reply to a question, the Iraqi minister said that "despite the aggressive war imposed on Iraq, the Iraqi economy has continued to grow and implementation of development projects has also continued. Hundreds of development projects in the fields of industry, agriculture, transport, communications, education, health, and social services have been completed."

He noted that Iraq's national income has increased from 812 million Iraqi dinars in 1968 to more than 11 billion dinars in 1984. He added that the investment plan covers hundreds of development projects which will be implemented in 1987 and the few following years to add more strength to the Iraqi economy.

He also said that it must be pointed out that one of the main aims of the plots against Iraq is to weaken and even paralyze the Iraqi economy after Iraq's excellent consolidation of its economic base and the excellent results it has achieved in the field of development.

PNPF: Arms Deal 'Proves' Iran-Zionist Ties

JN012134 Baghdad Domesic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Comrade Hasan 'Ali, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command and secretary general of the Progressive National and Patriotic Front [PNPF], presided over a PNPF meeting of the Front's Secretariat General to discuss the dimensions of the U.S.- Zionist-Iranian arms cooperation.

Comrade Hasan 'Ali affirmed that this cooperation will not prevent our proud people and their national forces from continuing their march of construction and development under struggler President Saddam Husayn's unique, historic leadership. He added that our proud people will continue to insist on defending the homeland and its sacred soil against the aggression of the unjust group in Iran. They will also protect the achievements and gains of the glorious 17-30 July revolution. At the end of the meeting, the Front issued a statement condemning the suspect cooperation between the U.S. Administration, the Zionist entity, and the Iranian regime which is hostile to the Arab nation and its legitimate aspirations. The Secretariat General also affirmed that the admission by the United States and the Zionist entity that they supplied the Iranian regime with weapons to continue its agression against our peaceful people proves Iraq's announcements about the suspicious and aggressive ties between the charlatan group in Iran and Zionism.

The statement says that Iraq's victories over the forces of the dubious Iranian regime have foiled criminal plans related to the strategic Zionist-imperialist-Khomeyniite hostility to our struggler Arab nation and its eastern flank, the center of hope represented by Iraq.

Communique No 2,465 Details Latest Combat

JN011737 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Communique No 2,465 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 1 December 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. On the day of martyrs and of the mast of the fluttering Iraqi flag, our valiant Armed Forces renew the pledge of loyalty to the leader of victory, may God protect him, stressing that every drop of pure blood will bring good to the people of sacrifices and heroic deeds and will remain a sword in the body of the criminal Zionist Iranian regime. Our country's sovereignty, dignity, and borders will continue to be safeguarded with what the best of men, whose place is in paradise and in the hearts of millions, have offered.

The following is a roundup of activities for last night and today:

1. A brave force from our units in the central sector raided enemy positions opposite the II Army Corps front, dealing them a violent blow. The force succeeded in destroying and burning the enemy positions and in inflicting losses on the Khomeyniites. The force then returned safely to base. Elsewhere in this sector, two infantry positions were destroyed and one ammunition dump was set ablaze.

2. Our units in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah pounded enemy positions opposite them, destroying three infantry positions and one boat and killing their occupants. In other parts of this sector, three enemy soldiers were killed and several infantry positions were destroyed.

3. The VII Army Corps soldiers continued their combat activities and succeeded in destroying some enemy positions and shelters, killing five and destroying a tower.

4. The Zionist Khomeyniites shelled the suburbs of Basra and Al-Qurnah with long-range artillery, wounding a child.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 1 December 1986

Taha Yasin Ramadan Returns From CSSR Visit

JN011627 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1500 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Dec (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, and his accompanying delegation returned to Baghdad last night after a visit to the CSSR lasting several days. He described his talks with President Gustav Husak and Premier Lubomir Strougal and the expanded official talks as very important and friendly and a detailed discussion of bilateral relations, the Iraq-Iran war, and Arab and international issues of common interest.

Taha Yasin Ramadan said: We gave the CSSR leadership a detailed explanation of the latest developments in the war, of the Iranian regime's escalation of its large-scale aggression, its shelling of cities, its continued aggression against Iraq, and of its rejection of all peaceful efforts and international resolutions. He added Iraq will continue to destroy the Iranian regime's military and economic installations, pointing out Iraq's defense capabilities during the 7th year of the war are better than before.

Ramadan also said the CSSR leadership stressed the need to bring about peace between Iraq and Iran, as well as its decision to continue efforts in this regard, its support for Iraq's peace initiatives to end the war, and the CSSR's sympathy with Iraq which is defending its sovereignty and independence. He added the visit produced very important results represented in th signing of a long-term cooperation agreement in economic, scientific, technical, and trade areas and in the two countries' belief in the need to expand cooperation between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, as well as between organizations and professional and popular trade unions. Ramadan affirmed this comprehensive agreement under the current circumstances is viewed as great progress in bilateral relations and a reflection of existing profound cooperation and serious action by both sides to strengthen it in the long run in the interest of joint goals of both countries and peoples.

Taha Yasin Ramadan also pointed out that signing any long-term agreement is a sign of confidence in Iraq's strength politically, militarily, and economically, stressing that the success of the visit and its positive results give new bases and strength to Iraq's capability and its determination to continue to build and defend the homeland. Ramadan's accompanying delegation comprised Subhi Yasin, industry and minerals minister and head of the Iraqi side on the Iraqi-CSSR joint committee; the under secretaries of the Foreign Ministry and the Industry and Minerals Ministry; and a large number of specialized employees of concerned ministries.

Taha Yasin Ramadan was accorded a warm official sendoff. Leading those who saw him off were Premier Lubomir Strougal, the ministers, senior state and party officials, and the Iraqi Embassy staff in Prague.

Government, Egypt To 'Confront Iranian Onslaught'

JN011314 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Fu'ad Na'im dispatch from Amman]

[Text] Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i has affirmed that Jordan will not hesitate to do its utmost to carry out its pan-Arab duty and commitment toward the Arab states to confront the Iranian onslaught that threatens the security of the Gulf states and the whole Arab entity. The Jordanian prime minister appealed to the Arab states to abide by the collective Arab defense pact.

Al-Rifa'i made this statement to the Jordanian official news agency, PETRA, yesterday. His statements have coincided with those made yesterday in Cairo by Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, who also urged the Arab states to stand by the collective Arab defense pact to confront Iranian threats. President Mubarak also said Egypt will abide by this pact if Iran attacked Arab Gulf countries.

Observers in Amman consider the timing of the statements by President Mubarak and Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i as part of the intensive political coordination between Egypt and Jordan. These statements may pave the way for joint action by the two states with regard to the Iraq-Iran war. Informed sources say this topic was discussed during King Husayn's visit to Cairo on 22 November and in wake of the disclosure of the U.S. arms deal to Iran.

King Husayn Palestinian Solidarity Day Message

JN012055 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1802 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] On the occasion of the day of solidarity with the Palestinian people, His Majesty King Husayn has addressed a message to the Committee on the Palestinian People's Inalienable Rights to be read on his majesty's behalf by Jordan's permanent representative to the United Nations at the UN General Assembly this evening. The following is the text of the address:

His Excellency, the Chairman of the Committee on the Palestinian People's Inalienable Rights: First of all, it gives me pleasure to convey to you and to the esteemed committee members ample thanks and appreciation for your persistent efforts to remove the injustice that has befallen the Palestinian Arab people as a result of the continued Israeli occupation of Arab territories and the absence of peace in the Middle East. Your serious and objective endeavors in this respect are a major contribution toward realizing justice and fair treatment for this people which has suffered from prejudice and dispersion more than any other people in contemporary history.

There is no doubt that your constructive efforts are a major contribution toward growing international belief that the basis of peace between the Arab countries and Israel is the realization of justice for the Palestinian people.

This annual celebration of an international day of solidarity with the Palestinian people is a testimony to the international community's concern over the tragic state of affairs the Palestinians are experiencing and is irrefutable evidence of the reawakening of the international community's conscience and of its constant adherence to the values of justice, right, and quality, values which form the only basis for establishing a sound international community based on brotherhood, peace, and cooperation. For this reason your defense of the Palestinian people is a real investment in the battle for international peace and for the defense of principles of justice and rights everywhere.

As for us in Jordan, we did not hesitate in assuming the responsibility that our national and pan-Arab commitments dictate to us toward our Palestinian Arab people, in addition to our ethical commitment to defend principles of justice and right. We stood by the side of our Palestinian brothers in the same trench when they stood by themselves in the first stages of the aggression which was prepared and planned on an international level to invade Palestine and wipe out its Arab identity as part of a world onslaught against the unified and independent Arab existence.

The Jordanian and Palestinian people later stood united in the face of Israeli designs of expansion and attempts to eradicate Palestinian identity and the legitimate right of the Palestinian people to the soil of their ancestors. We jointly assumed the responsibility of confronting the fiercest and most perilous external onslaught, armed with a sincere pan-Arab determination and with a firm unionist belief embodied in Jordanian-Palestinian unity which will remain the solid rock against which all the attempts to destroy the Palestinian people and to disavow their historic and inalienable rights to their land will founder.

We have supported them and will continue to support them with all our capabilities until they are capable of exercising their legitimate rights free from foreign occupation and control. We are confident that your sincere activities for the Palestinian people will ultimately make you appreciate the historical responsibility and the vanguard and effective role Jordan asssumes in this sphere.

If the international community has gradually come to realize the extent of the tribulations and the sufferings which have befallen the Palestinians, it, as yet, has not succeeded in putting into practice its will which is embodied in resolutions and stands on justice and equity for all. That is why we must now amend this salient state of affairs by jointly seeking to attain justice for all, particularly for the Palestinian people.

For our part, we have stated, and the overwhelming majority has supported us in our statements, that the only way to achieve this is through attaining comprehensive, just, and lasting peace based on principles of international legitimacy annd binding UN resolutions.

Toward this end, we signed with the PLO the 11 February 1985 agreement whose bases and guidelines continue to govern our political moves toward the Palestinian cause. We also asked for an international conference on peace in the Middle East on the basis of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 to be attended by all parties concerned, in addition to the five UN

Security Council permanent members, to establish a lasting, comprehensive, and just peace and to settle the Palestinian problem in all aspects. No one has so far objected to this course with the exception of Israel and its allies -- whom we believe are taking such a stand not because they fail to comprehend the fairness of the Palestinian people's cause, but because of transient interests -- and it has been proved that these parties are ready to sacrifice the noble principles on which the United Nations is established.

For these and other reasons, we find ourselves dutybound not only to support your efforts and bless them, but also to call on you to exert further efforts with everyone, particularly with the allies of Israel and its supporters, until they realize the magnitude of the peril engendered by Israel's intransigence and its refusal to respond to various peace calls and until they are convinced their real interests will be safeguarded and further entrenched through their support for international legitimacy and through standing by the side of justice and peace.

There is no doubt that you will find in our sincere intentions for peace and in our constancy in defending our historical rights the best assistance in carrying out such an endeavor. The Arabs have unambiguously proclaimed their desire for a just, comprehensive, and lasting peace. The Palestinian people have also stated that they abide by peace and reject attempts to confine them within a circle of extremism, rejection, and violence to avoid being easily removed and liquidated.

In line with this, we responded positively to UN resolutions and to all peace initiatives while Israel responded with rejection and intransigence. It also sought to reject all these initiatives and to void them of their contents through its continued occupation of Arab territories, including Jerusalem, as well as its annexation of Arab Jerusalem and the Golan, not to mention its attempts to expand at the expense of Lebanon, in addition to its policies and practices voilating human rights and international law in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The region is experiencing many tribulations and the Palestinian people are suffering from many pains. However, this must not be an obstacle to peace but an incentive to pursue sincere action to attain peace. For this purpose, let us seriously and sincerely work to exploit the last opportunity available to us, the convocation of an international conference which we and the overwhelming majority view as a suitable formula through which peace can be achieved. We praise the international community's support for the Palestinian people, its standing by the side of Arab rights, and its support for an international conference on peace in the Middle East.

In conclusion, our faith in our historical rights in Palestine cannot be shaken and this faith is equaled by faith in the objectives of the United Nations and in its ability to impose peace and attain justice for all oppressed people. We wish you success in your noble endeavor to attain justice and peace on the basis of international legitimacy, to enable the Palestinian Arab people to regain their legitimate rights, and to put an end to the tribulation and sufferings they have long been enduring. May God's peace and blessings be upon you.

Restrictions on Cairo-Amman Bank Protested

JN011656 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 30 Nov 86 p 7

[Text] Amman — The Cairo-Amman Bank Nabulus branch has begun to distribute checkbooks to its clients following the preliminary decision by the bank's management to also allow inhabitants of Jerusalem to open accounts at the branch. On the other hand, official quarters have announced that the inhabitants of Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip will not be allowed to conduct financial activities in dinars and that such activities must be done in shekels.

It was recently learned that Jordanian authorities protested against not allowing the inhabitants of Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip to exercise their banking rights, as Jordan believes the failure to grant full rights to the inhabitants of the occupied territories at the Cairo-Amman Bank constitutes an approval of Israeli annexation of the territories.

Karami Appeals for End to Fighting in Camps

NC011950 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Rashid Karami today made a sincere appeal for a cease-fire in the camps and the areas adjacent to them as quickly as possible. He expressed his hope that participants at the ongoing meetings in Damascus will succeed in their attempts to organize the relationship between those fighting and give guarantees to all the parties concerned. He called for facilitating the work of humanitarian groups for the sake of the people.

Karami made this statement after chairing the weekly meeting of the Committee for the Coordination of West Beirut Security. The session was also attended by Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran. Karami said:

[Begin recording] Discussion at this coordination committee meeting focused on the events now taking place in and around the camps. This is a painful situation and one that everyone rejects. This war will not benefit any of the disputing parties. Everyone stands to lose and will eventually be accountable for endangering Lebanon, the Lebanese people, and other residents. For this reason, we issue a sincere appeal for a cease-fire as quickly as possible to stop the bloodshed and put an end to this massacre, destruction, and danger. The fighting imperils both the Palestinians and the Lebanese. We hope the continuing meetings in Damascus between the PLO and the brothers in the other parties will succeed in making arrangements to organize the relationship between those who are fighting and give guarantees to all the parties concerned, thereby reassuring them and creating confidence. There will then be no justification for this fighting. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Hizballah Issues Statement

NC020704 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Hizballah has issued a statement saying any return to the state of affairs that prevailed before 1982 is completely out of the question. The statement goes on to say that Hizballah rejects every plan aimed at liquidating the Palestinian people and notes that the plot is vicious and complicated. Hence, it is incumbent on all parties to be vigilant so they do not fall into the trap. The statement appeals to the warring factions to stop the fighting and agree on ways to end the ordeal, the results of which can only serve the Zionist enemy.

Hizballah emphasizes that the outcome of this ordeal will be the disruption of the course of the Islamic resistance. Efforts to obstruct its human and material supplies are extremely serious and must be dealt with, without any attempts at one-upmanship. Furthermore, the isolation of our kinfolk in the south is bound to inflict very grave economic, social, and political damage on them and constitutes an invitation to the Zionist enemy to enter our arena through the gap thus created, Hizballah concludes.

Amal Holds Al-Qadhdhafi Responsible for Conflict

NC011231 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1115 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] The Amal Movement's Central Information Bureau has issued the following statement:

Once again the kidnapper of Imam al-Sadr [Al-Qadhdhafi] has shed crocodile tears over the Palestinian camps and has called on the president of the Syrian Arab Republic to intervene to stop what he terms the encirclement or extermination of the Palestinians in Shatila camp. Meanwhile, Major Jallud has interfered in the ongoing discussions in Damascus to complicate any near solution, releasing statements full of flowery and revolutionary expressions.

The Amal Movement stresses that any agreement on the current events in the camps must be sponsored and guaranteed by Syria and the Islamic Republic of Iran and must make a distinction between the presence of Palestinian civilians and the armed presence.

There is no independent security for the camps. The Palestinian rifle, if it is to be used to fight Israel, must come under the command of the Amal Movement. Otherwise, it should be put into store or disappear for good.

We in the Amal Mvement adhere to Imam al-Sadr's principles, which separate the enemy from the friend. We will not permit Al-Qadhdhafi and his accomplices in the crime of the disappearance of Imam al-Sadr to trade in Lebanese and Palestinian blood, on the pretext of seeking to end the fighting. What Al-Qadhdhafi is actually doing is pouring oil on the fire and putting obstacles in the way of sincere Syrian efforts to bring an end to the war imposed on Amal.

The purpose of this plot, which originated in the Palestinian camps, is to complete the plan to make the south an alternative homeland for the Palestinians, a plan that began with the kidnapping of Imam al-Sadr and his two companions.

The Amal Movement sees no difference between 'Arafat and Al-Qadhdhafi when it comes to principles and stands. They are both responsible for what is currently going on in Lebanon. The Amal Movement will continue the struggle to regain the homeland's freedom and sovereignty and to restore the freedom of its leader [Imam Musa al-Sadr].

Paper Links Beirut Chemicals Factory With Iraq

LD011010 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1550 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Excerpts] Beirut, 30 Nov (JANA) — The newspaper *Al-Ghad al-Dimuqrati*, organ of the Iraqi Democratic Grouping [Al-Tajammu' al-Dimuqrati al-'Iraqi] has uncovered suspicious ties between Saddam's fascist Ba'thist regime and the family of Sham'un, a leading member of the isolationist front in Lebanon.

The paper said an explosion that took place in a factory in East Beirut has exposed a major scandal because the factory was producing chemical weapons for the fascist Ba'thist regime in Iraq. [passage omitted]

The paper said the explosion, which took place in Beirut not long ago and which was reported by the media as only an explosion in a workshop, poisoned several workers and citizens. *Al-Ghad al-Dimuqrati* said: "Despite the news blackout on the incident, reports revealed that the location of the incident was in fact a factory making chemical bombs for the fascist Ba'thist regime. This prompted the Lebanese Ministry of Justice to investigate the matter. This revealed that the factory has been operating for many years and that chemical materials have been shipped to the fascist Iraqi Ba'thist regime from the port of Beirut."

Amal Executes Man Accused of Car Bomb Attacks

NC011454 Paris AFP in English 1448 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Beirut, Dec 1 (AFP) — Amal Shi'ite militia have publicly executed a 30-year old Lebanese Shi'ite accused of two car bomb attacks which killed eight people and injured 45 in a Shi'ite suburb of Beirut in February 1985.

Muhammad 'Ali Jawad, wrapped in a white sheet, was put before a masked firing squad on Sunday on the site of one of the explosions, witnessed by journalists and by a crowd of some 500 chanting "Allah is great".

In a communique, Amal said the condemned man, who lived in a Christian district of Beirut, had admitted that the Lebanese Forces Christian militia had put him up to carrying out the attacks.

It was the third public execution carried out by Amal in five months. Last July, the movement executed a Lebanese Sunni-Moslem accused of a car bomb attack in Moslem-dominated West Beirut, and a man accused of killing four members of a family in a dispute over drinking water.

Minister Urged to End Radio's Official Status

NC020832 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] In view of the fact that Al-Sana'i' [Beirut domestic] radio continues to concoct news and broadcasts commentaries damaging to national interests and unity, and beneficial only to the cause of partition, information circles have begun to question the role of Information Minister Joseph Skaf in this phenomenon. These circles attribute Skaf's inaction on this matter either to his collaborationwith parties manipulated from abroad or to his indifference to this critical national issue.

The same information circles reiterate their demand that Minister Skaf assume his responsibility and abolish the official status of the [state-run] Al-Sana'i' radio. This station is controlled by the remnants of [Minister Nabih] Birri's followers. Minister Skaf is called upon to make up his mind whether he wants to collaborate with subversive foreign parties or behave in accordance with Lebanon's national interests and his constitutional responsibilities as minister of information.

General Strike Observed; No Papers Published

NC020739 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Excerpts] The general strike observed in all parts of Lebanon today in protest against extortion and the high cost of living is having a considerable effect on political activity and efforts to end the camps fighting, among other issues. [passage omitted]

Lebanese newspapers will not appear today, due to the strike. They will come out tomorrow as usual.

Al-Shar' Comments on Arms Deal, Israeli Role

JN020650 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2125 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' has said that the plan recently drawn up in Washington aimed to wage a psychological war and media campaign against Syria is more dangerous than an armed aggression against it. He added: However, London's and Washington's attempts and dreams to isolate Syria or change its principled policy for liberation and regaining usurped rights have collapsed.

In an interview published today in the UAE paper *Al-Khalij*, Faruq al-Shar' said: In the heat of the campaign of fabrication and deception against Syria in the world, Washington and London have forgotten that honest people in the world believe only honest people.

Asked about the European and U.S. measures against Syria, Faruq al-Shar' said: These measures have no practical value because Syria does not get arms from Western states. Restrictions on the movements of Syrians in European states and the United States are also applied to all Arabs and not only to Syrians.

He added: The idea of suspending visits by senior officials to and from to Syria is ridiculous and is directed against European states and not against Syrian officials who constantly feel embarrassed for being unable to accept invitations extended to them by their European counterparts because of the many visits to Damascus by officials from various parts of the world.

Answering a question on the best practical way to confront the anti-Syrian U.S. and British stand, Faruq al-Shar' said: The best way to confront such a stand can be summarized in what President Hafiz al-Asad said in his historic speech to the 21st conference of the General Trade Unions Federation, which is that they are undoubtedly out of their minds if they imagine that despite all their experiences with us we will capitulate.

In reply to a question on news agency reports that the United States supplied Iran with arms and on Israel's role in the matter, Foreign Minister al-Shar' said: Iran is an important state in the region. It is only natural for the United States to try to desperately attempt to establish relations with Iran and to use all moral as well as immoral means to realize this objective. He added: Zionism, which is fully aware of the extent of the Iranian revolution's hostility, has sought and will continue to seek any secret link with Iran. Any talk about an alleged Israeli role in this deal despite the Iranian officials' categorical denial is not aimed at deceiving the Israelis because the Israelis are certain of their hostility to the Iranian revolution and the hostility of the Iranian revolution to them, but is aimed at deceiving Arabs and Muslims and warning them against establishing good relations with Iran by casting doubts about the Iranian revolution's slogans about the liberation of Jerusalem and Palestine.

Asked about the shock felt by some Arab governments with regard to U.S. credibility in the region, Faruq al-Shar' said: We in Syria never believed that the United States has credibility with the Arabs. We repeatedly said that the United States has no friend or ally in the region other than the Zionist entity. The United States cares only for its interests and the interests of its ally, Israel. The attainment of U.S. interests was not always sought through moral and principled means. In any case, we hope that the Arab states that have now discovered the United States' lack of credibility will pursue their policies in the future on the basis of that belief.

Asked about Syria's stand on convening the Arab summit and its agenda, Foreign Minister al-Shar' said: President Hafiz al-Asad has informed the Arab League secretary general and the Algerian foreign minister of Syria's agreement to convening the ordinary Arab summit and wished it success, and emphasized to them that Syria will make every possible effort to insure its success and to insure that it will result in genuine Arab solidarity in confronting all major challenges foremost among which are Zionist and imperialist challenges. As for the summit's agenda it will be determined and agreed upon through consultations.

Asked about Syria's stand on the camps war, Faruq al-Shar' replied: Continuous meetings and discussions are being held in Damascus among the Palestinian National Salvation Front, the Lebanese nationalist movement, and Amal to put an end to the camps war. It is regrettable that one of the Palestinian parties — which is desperately seeking to negotiate with the Israeli enemy in Bucharest and elsewhere — is the same party that insists on carrying arms against the nationalist Lebanese.

The foreign minister asked: Was Maghdushah under Israeli occupation or under the control of the agent Lahd army when 'Arafat's group tried to occupy it?

Answering a question on President Hafiz al-Asad's call for the formation of an international committee to combat terrorism Foreign Minister al-Shar' declared: When the president proposed the formation of an international committee that could be an Arab-European committee or an Arab-European-U.S.-Soviet committee to define the meaning of terrorism and the line that separates it from the struggle of peoples to liberate their territory, he was posing a great challenge to London and Washington and exposing the falsehood of their claims and facing them with two options: Either London and Washington should accept the formation of such a committee, or they should silence their hostile media from now on.

Faruq al-Shar' added: In any case Syria will continue as always to uphold the nation's rights and the honest defender of the Arabs' national rights, whatever the sacrifices. We firmly believe that the line of struggle pursued by Syria under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad is the only path available to us as Arabs to regain our occupied territory and usurped rights.

Press on U.S.-UK-Israeli 'Pressure' on FRG

JN290744 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The FRG and the Dangers of Its Embroilment in the Campaign of Deception Against Syria," *Al-Thawrah* says: It is clear that the U.S.-Israeli campaign against Syria, which Britain is spearheading, is trying to drag in Western European countries. Washington, London, and Tel Aviv exerted varying pressure on Western European countries during the Luxembourg and London meetings. These pressures were disclosed in world newspapers as well as in statements by officials of Western European countries, who frankly refused to link terrorism with the Arabs. Some of them even exposed the role of the Mosad in concocting plots in collusion with British intelligence and the CIA to brand the Arabs with the stigma of terrorism, to tarnish the struggle of the Arab liberation movement and to confuse the meaning of resistance and national resistance on one hand with the meaning of terrorism on the other.

Al-Thawrah adds: It is really regrettable to see some Western European countries, particularly the FRG, dragged — through U.S. and British pressure — into a slanderous campaign against Syria and the Arab nation considering all the harm that could be done to FRG interests and relations with the Arab nation because of this unjustifiable stand — this despite the fact that FRG officials have on many occasions affirmed their concern to develop these relations with Syria and the Arab nation.

Al-Thawrah continues: As Syria reacts to the FRG Government's unjustifiable measures, it is in fact taking fair and logical measures. Syria can only understand the FRG Government's measures as embroilment in the rancorous colonialist-Zionist campaign to which the region is being subjected to peddle separate deals and liquidatory solutions and to impose capitulation on the Arabs. Confronting this hostile scheme is a national and pan-Arab mission whose responsibility must be shouldered by Syria and the Arab masses to expose the campaign of slanders, deception, and threats, and consequently, to abort the hostile schemes.

Al-Thawrah concludes: Those who succumbed to U.S., British, and Zionist pressures must champion the interests of their countries and listen to the logic of truth and rights because the interests of Western European countries lie in their cordial and good relations with the Arab countries, not in their embroilment in the schemes of aggression and U.S.-Israeli hegemony.

In its editorial today, *Tishrin* deals with the seriousness of the FRG decision, affirming that the FRG's embroilement in the British-U.S. campaign of slanders and deception against Syria came through pressure from Washington. *Tishrin* says: The U.S. Administration is now in a state of real imbalance and could not withstand another failure in its losing battles. This administration has been exposed in Europe, in NATO, and in the world. It has even lost confidence in the United States itself. We wonder how it looks outside the United States. As it could not withstand a new shock, the FRG decision shows that the United States still holds its European positions.

Tishrin concludes: Because Syria rejects all forms of submission and appeasement and because they want us to succumb — although the distance between Syria and capitulation is as far as the distance that separates them from the planets which they have not yet reached nor will they for scores of years — they are insane if they think that we will submit. We understand the reason for the grudge they hold against Syria; we understand the dangers directed at Syria, and we also understand the reason for igniting fires around Syria, beginning with the economic war; the various political, military, and economic pressures; and the situation in Lebanon with the cheap 'Arafat and the dirty role he is playing even if it leads to the liquidation of the Palestinian people in Lebanon to satisfy America and prove his good intentions. We can say that military aggression might be one of the tools to remove the Syrian stumbling block. They will be completely mistaken if they imagine that they can begin any aggression without paying a very high price. They know Syria, and they will know it even better if their stupidity leads them to take the risk and launch aggression or to play with fire.

Further Reportage on Visit of Libya's Jallud

Lebanon Cease-Fire Set

LD272356 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2300 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] The JANA reporter in Damascus has learned that as a result of efforts by the Great Jamahiriyah through the meetings and intensive contacts by Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud and as a result of the meetings and intensive contacts between the Lebanese patriotic forces and the Palestinian National Salvation Front, a comprehensive agreement has been reached. It embraces a comprehensive cease-fire which begins at 1500 today, Friday, in the month November. Withdrawal of Palestinian forces from east of Sidon to their positions inside the camps will take place at 1800 the same day. Complete withdrawal will be completed at 0600 Saturday. The forces of Amal gangs would return to their positions east of Sidon at 0600 the same day.

Internal security forces will supervise the cease-fire and the withdrawal, and hand over positions to what was the situation before the month of October 1986.

Supplies and ambulance vehicles will be given the opportunity to enter Al-Rashidiyah to give first aid to the wounded 2 hours after the return of the forces of Amal Shi'ite gangs to their positions.

Joint patriotic Lebanese forces will provide security over the coastal road from Beirut to the south in order to guarantee freedom of movement to Sidon.

The question of Burj al-Barajinah and Shatila will be tackled next Sunday, and the siege of Al-Rashidiyah will be lifted on the same day.

A meeting will be held in Damascus on Monday 1 of December to discuss the militant patriotic Lebanese-Palestinian relations.

Meets With Khaddam

LD301549 Tripoli JANA in English 1444 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Damascus, Al-Harth 30, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — Staff Major 'Abd al-Sallam Jallud met this morning in Damascus with Mr. 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, the vice president of the Syrian Arab Republic.

Meets With Palestinian Groups

LD302210 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1546 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Damascus, 30 Nov (JANA) — Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud is making continuous and intensive efforts to stop Arab bloodshed in the genocidal war the Shi'ite gangs of despair [reference to Amal Movement] are waging against the Palestinians in Lebanon.

Staff Major Jallud this morning met with Brother 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian vice president, to consolidate the Libyan-Syrian efforts to bring about a cease-fire on a practical and effective basis.

Staff Major Jallud also met this morning with various Palestinian organizations in the PNSF [Palestine National Salvation Front] in order to bring about a total halt to the current fighting in southern Lebanon, fighting that is escalating by the hour. Major Jallud had condemned this war, describing it as a fire that is destroying all of us at a time when we should all be fighting in one trench against the Zionist enemy. These battles, he added, are aimed at our religion and nationalism. Real victory is that which is achieved against the Zionists — in the confrontation with the Zionist enemy.

He stressed that those who benefit from these battles are the United States, the Zionists, 'Arafat, and the advocates of capitulation in the Arab world.

Received by Al-Asad

JN301918 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the 1 September Revolution Command in Libya, at 1730 today. Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam attended the meeting.

The development of the situation in the Arab arena and issues of common concern were discussed during the meeting.

Iranian Envoy, Official Confer With Khaddam

LD020645 Tehran IRNA in English 0619 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Damascus, Dec. 2, IRNA — The Iranian ambassador to Syria, Mohammad Hasan Akhtari, here Monday conferred with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam on ways to stop camp war in Lebanon.

Meanwhile the deputy foreign minister for political affairs, Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, currently visiting Syria, met with the members of the Executive Committee of Lebanese Ulema Society at Iran's Embassy in Damascus.

The two sides discussed issues concerning camp war and solutions to end the battle.

Reportage, Commentary on Iranian Arms Deal

U.S. Requests Official Cooperation

TA020522 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] The U.S. Justice Department has officially asked Israel to cooperate with the investigation into the arms deals with Iran. It requests that U.S. investigators be allowed to collect information about the affair and about the transfer of funds to the Nicaraguan rebels. This has been learned by our correspondent in Washington, Shim'on Schiffer, from sources close to the investigation.

Last night, the White House spokesman refused to reply to our correspondent's question as to which country President Reagan was referring to when he said that another country — not the United States — had transferred the funds to the Nicaraguan rebels. According to another version, the White House spokesman confirmed that Israel is the country in question.

Rabin Collecting Documents

TA020527 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has ordered that all the documents pertaining to the supply of arms to Iran be transferred to his office. This has been learned by our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal. A senior source in the Defense Ministry said this was not an internal investigation but rather an effort to collect all the documents and dossiers pertaining to the deal in order to ascertain what happened. The source added that the Defense Ministry has not yet received any notice about the arrival of a U.S. investigatory team or about the intention to summon Israeli officials for interrogation.

However, a senior Defense Ministry official told our correspondent that the possibility should not be ruled out that the material being gathered by Minister Rabin may be used to prepare an official, documented Israeli version.

Our military correspondent has learned that those who dealt with the affair of the arms shipments to Iran did not coordinate their activities with the head of the department in charge of defense exports. The reason for his circumvention has not been disclosed.

Shamir: No Investigation

TA020535 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says Israel would cooperate with the U.S. investigators probing the transfer of U.S. weapons to Iran but would not conduct its own investigation. He made this statement during a meeting with the president of the B'nai B'rith organization, Seymour Reich. The prime minister said that there is nothing to investigate in Israel. The prime minister acknowledged that Israel shipped arms to Iran in an effort to free U.S. hostages held in Lebanon. Shamir repeated that Israel had nothing to do with the contras.

Shamir Briefs Cabinet

TA301528 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] For the first time the prime minister today briefed the Cabinet plenum on the transfer of arms to Iran. Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that the foreign and defense ministers added additional information and clarification. The briefing was given within the framework of the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs.

Cabinet Secretary Elyaqim Rubinstein today at noon issued an announcement saying that anyone relying on unidentified sources with regard to the Iran arms issue is relying on unfounded and baseless information.

Further on Cabinet Briefing

TA301528 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Report by political correspondent 'Oz Frankel — live]

[Excerpt] In the weekly Cabinet session today the prime minister reviewed the issue of the arms transfers to Iran. The foreign and defense minister provided additional details and ministers posed questions, but no real discussion was held. This part of the meeting was held in the framework of the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs, and that is why we cannot furnish any further details. We can only tell you what we were told by ministers emerging from the Cabinet session who said that, all in all, they did not hear in the hall anything in addition to what they have read in both the local and foreign press.

No high-level contacts have yet been held between Washington and Jerusalem on this affair.

In the United States, the Israeli aspect of it is mainly dealt with by the press. The ambassador in Washington, Me'ir Rosenne, conferred with Secretary of State George Shultz on Friday but the two key words, Iran and the contras, were not all mentioned.

Rosenne conveyed to Shultz a general message from Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir regarding the peace process in the wake of a message on the issue Shamir had received from the U.S. secretary of state about 3 weeks ago. Also the talk on this political issue was described by sources in Jerusalem as not operational.

Senior sources in Jerusalem disclosed today that during the contacts preceding the arms deals, Robert McFarlane made it plain to his Israeli interlocutors that the appeal to Israel to transfer the arms and military equipment had been made with President Reagan's approval and Secretary of State George Shultz' knowledge.

It seems that Israel will use this argument if and when it is asked for explanations by the commissions of inquiry set up by the Congress and administration. [passage omitted]

Peres Interview

TA271938 Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Interview with Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres by moderator Marcelle Sagiv and political correspondent Me'ir Kohen on the Arabic-language "Meeting" program — live, in Hebrew, in the Jerusalem television studio]

[Text] [Sagiv] Mr Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, beyond the considerations which were taken into account on the matter of arms transfers to Iran, it seems to me that there is a simple question which many ask: How is it that Israel is aiding the Khomeyni regime, which is known as an extremely anti-Jewish regime that supports terror?
[Peres] The question is good, but it is not correctly formulated.

[Sagiv] Help me to correctly formulate it then.
[Peres] Willingly. I heard President Reagan on the issue. He explained that one of the goals was to change and not support the regime in Iran. Without a doubt there is a succession struggle in Iran. Our criticism is of Khomeyni and our concern relates to what will come after Khomeyni. I promise you life will continue after Khomeyni as well.

[Sagiv] However, the arms consignments were intended for the present regime, and in this fight Khomeyni could have been the victor. Are we not aiding his regime?
[Peres] I do not think so. First, we did not send but aided in the transfer of arms. What were involved here were very small, almost symbolic, amounts of arms. Israel is not interfering and will not interfere in the Iraq-Iran war and, in my opinion, there were two aspects here: You are talking about the current regime. What is the current regime? How do you know it is a unified regime? Perhaps there are different groups within the current regime. Perhaps — and I'm asking this only as a question — there was an attempt to establish a link with another group. However, there is another problem, as I see it, which I am not hiding, and this is the matter of the hostages. When no military option exists to release hostages, other means are sought. I know there is sometimes an undeniable contradiction between the war against terrorism and the saving of lives. We also released very many terrorists even though this contradicted our interests. And who says that a terrorist is more dangerous than arms?

[Kohen] Mr Peres, the criticism voiced in the Knesset yesterday was directed at the fact that the decision on arms shipments to Iran was made by a limited forum, without the government or at least the Inner Cabinet, being informed. We heard the views of Minister Weizman and the chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee on the issue. How do you regard this criticism?
[Peres] I do not accept it. I think that in every country there are things that are secret. On occasion a country can leave a decision to one person, for example, to the commander of a brigade or the commander of a battalion, when the issue involves an operation, when it involves the lives of people — and in this case lives were involved; it involved, among other things, hostages. In addition, it is not our secret or only our secret; it is another country's secret. According to the rules affecting the government on the transfer of arms or the sale of arms, three ministers are responsible: the prime minister, the vice prime minister and foreign minister, and the defense minister. There was never any question that these three people are the ones to decide.

[Sagiv] Mr Peres, criticism was also voiced by a member of your party, Knesset Member Abba Eban, chairman of the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, who said that the committee will hold another meeting on Tuesday during which he will demand that the committee be given information. He also claims that it is inconceivable that decisions should be made without being brought to the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee's attention.
[Peres] I do not think so. The government decides and then reports to the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. There is a distinction between the Knesset and the government. In the division of parliamentary authority, too, the government is the executive branch while the Knesset is the legislative as well as the oversight branch. In order for the Knesset to oversee, the government must announce its decisions post factum. I do not accept Mr Eban's criticism. He confused two things that have nothing to do with each other. For example, he said that a senior official revealed the information. It was not a senior official; it was a senior gossip.

[Kohen] Mr Peres, a demand has been made that an inquiry commission be set up....
[Peres, interrupting] By whom?

[Kohen].... a parliamentary inquiry commission to investigate the matter. What is your view on this?
[Peres] Look, there is an opposition that is seeking a job.

[Kohen] This is also Minister Sharon's view on the issue.
[Peres] How do you know? I have not heard this from Minister Sharon in any forum. But even if this were so, so what? In any event, in a parliamentary regime the minority does not supervise the majority; the majority decides. It is the obligation of the majority, and this is also why a majority is created.

[Sagiv] What happens when it turns out that the decisions that were made in the forum which you say has the authority were erroneous?
[Peres] They must be proven erroneous. I do not think that they were erroneous. Who determines whether they are erroneous or not? Is there some almighty being? Is there some chief rabbi? All the time that there is an operative decision, this is the only way to prove that it is correct.

[Sagiv] Are you certain today that the majority supports the decision that was reached and implemented, namely, to transfer arms to Iran?
[Peres] I have no doubt. And it is a fact that no proposal to set up an inquiry commission was adopted. It is a fact that my suggestion that the matter be transferred to the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee was accepted.

[Kohen] Mr Peres, is it not feared that this affair will affect U.S. relations with moderate Arab countries in the region, and thereby hinder the peace process? And did you perhaps also mention this in a message to President Mubarak?

[Peres] I would like to tell you that I do not accept this entire view whereby the Arabs are free to do whatever they like while we have to conduct a policy acceptable to the Arabs. Anchored at the port of Aqaba are 40 or 50 ships carrying arms to Iraq. These arms pass by only meters from our border. Does this mean we are in favor of the supply of arms to Iraq? Is not the PLO in Iraq? Are the Iraqis not threatening us with war? Are the Iraqis not using gas? Should Jordan ask permission to do what it is doing? Should Jordan only stipulate a condition for negotiations with us? Each conducts his own policy, and our policy involves the search for peace, without conditions.

[Kohen] Do you accept the distinction that Minister Weizman made with regard to the chances of Israel holding a dialogue with the Sunnis as opposed to the Shi'ites in the Muslim world?
[Peres] No. I hope we will live in peace both with the Sunnis and the Shi'ites. We do not rely on the difference between them, but rather on the chance to live with the Sunnis, the Shi'ites, the Christians, the Druze together. There is no such thing as half a peace; there is no peace with half the world. We are seriously striving to reach peace with everyone.

[Sagiv] Mr Peres, with your permission, let us return to what is happening in the United States....
[Peres, interrupting] That does not mean that I support the fundamentalists, not even Jewish fundamentalists or in general, I would say fanatics.

[Sagiv] The subject, as you know, is causing an uproar in the United States. You might say that this is not our business, but whether we like it or not we are connected with the affair. The question is: In the whole chain of events, could it not have been possible to prevent this situation whereby Israel is involved in affairs which are so criticized in the United States?
[Peres] Who told you that Israel has been criticized? Today there was an interview with a very distinguished Jew, Morris Abrahams, who is the president of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, in which he says the contrary. It is possible that the Americans will learn from this affair that Israel is an ally that can be depended upon, even in the most delicate matters. I would like to say that the same criticism can also be leveled at Mrs Thatcher for having permitted U.S. planes to take off in the operation against Libya. Of course, one can also be neutral. You have to decide. However, one must also take into account that if we are neutral, others will be neutral toward us. What criticism? I would like life to be simple, to be made of perfume instead of water, and down instead of earth. I would agree to this, but life is not like this. Life is very complex and full of contradictions. The nation has to decide. We endlessly ask things of America which also get America entangled.

[Kohen] Mr Peres, were you in contact with U.S. Administration leaders over the past few days? How did they view the official Israeli statement?
[Peres] On Sunday evening, prior to the issuing of the statement, I spoke on the telephone with Mr Meese, the U.S. attorney general. I informed him of the contents of the statement. He greatly appreciated the fact that I informed him in advance. I also had a very cordial conversation with Secretary of State Shultz.

[Sagiv] Mr Peres, with your permission, let us move on to another subject.
[Peres] Do not be so concerned. I feel that you are very concerned. Look, one can also emerge better off from such a test. Our conscience is clean; our hands are clean. We did not do what we did for money. We did not do it to gain sort of military or strategic advantage. We understand the dilemma that the United States was facing. We did it out of friendship, bone fide, for humanitarian reasons. Someone asked me yesterday what was gained. In my opinion, if three hostages were released, that is a gain in the humanitarian sphere.

[Sagiv] Mr Peres, permit me to tell you that if there is room for concern then perhaps it is not our concern that is important, but rather whether you are concerned, whether U.S. public opinion is concerned. Permit me also to refer to the subject of contradictions. I also listened to your remarks in the Knesset. Contradictions can sometimes be explained. The question is whether these contradictions can be explained in such a way that will be accepted by the majority of people and public opinion.
[Peres] I have no doubts about this.

[Sagiv] The question here is: How can one talk on behalf of morality or claim that we are clean morally-speaking when on the matter of the prisoner exchange it is possible that those terrorists who take hostages were actually helped by what he did?
[Peres] Were this the only thing, you would be correct. However, we are also striking out at terrorism. Were this the only action, I could understand. Usually, however, for 365 days a year, we fight terrorism. There is no doubt that there are exceptions, and morally speaking, one exception involves the saving of life. I said in the Knesset yesterday, and I repeat now: I greatly respect a president who has 230 million citizens and who, when one or two citizens are in distress does not forget them. This is part of the true values of a democratic regime, both there and here.

[Sagiv] In connection with this affair, there was another report stating that you met with the Saudi millionaire, Khashoggi, in New York....
[Peres, interrupting] When?

[Sagiv] Approximately 2 years ago.
[Peres] According to this report, this was before the whole affair with Iran.

[Sagiv] Before the affair, but the Iran issue existed. Did you discuss the issue of Iran?
[Peres] No, no. There was no discussion of Iran, if we met at all.

[Sagiv] Did you discuss the Middle East issue?
[Peres] If I were in your shoes, I would think that that was certainly the subject.

[Kohen] Mr Peres, the Inner Cabinet convened yesterday to discuss the various aspects of this affair. What in your opinion are the conclusions, implications? What are the rules for arms assistance to different countries?
[Peres] Usually, in the sale of arms — and we did not sell arms; you are constantly using the wrong term; we helped in the transfer of arms; one should also be accurate on this point — usually I believe that in the sale of arms, too, one should pay

attention to the economic aspect but also not ignore the moral aspect. And matters are frequently quite complex. I do not believe that the world runs according to simplistic rules. Were this the case, I would suggest that every person be given rules of behavior every day from morning to night. There is no such thing. Each case must be discussed in its entirety in accordance with the values in which we believe.

[Sagiv] Mr Peres, we will nevertheless move on to another subject. Perhaps it will also bring us back to this issue, but the subject is our relations with Egypt and the peace process. Mr Shahal recently visited Cairo and met with President Mubarak. He transmitted messages from you and Mr Shamir and brought messages back. Is the subject the peace process, or is it, once more, Iran?
[Peres] The peace process unequivocally. In my opinion, we have reached a very good level of dialogue with President Mubarak. President Mubarak also has other problems, such as Egypt's economy, although he believes — as I, too, believe — that he can overcome it. However, the main issue in our messages was the continuation of the peace process, not including, of course, those subjects which Minister Shahal is directly responsible for.

[Sagiv] On the subject of the peace process, is there one particular issue being focused on at the moment? For example, the Palestinian representation or the international conference? Where do things stand right now?
[Peres] Yes, the main issues have arisen in general. Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, and Israel all believe that there is no alternative to direct negotiations between us. However, the Jordanians — and the Egyptians, and I believe the Moroccans, too — would like an international conference. We agree to this. We are even in agreement on the nature of the conference. I will not go into all the details, but the main factor is that the conference would not have the power to impose anything. That is, I am sure that neither Egypt, nor Jordan, nor Israel will agree to Russians and Americans imposing a solution on us. This we must find on our own. There is no imposed solution.

[Sagiv] What purpose, then, would the conference serve if it has no authority?
[Peres] The conference would contribute by creating a propitious atmosphere for a meeting between parties that have never met. It would provide the framework, it would provide the assistance, and perhaps the Arabs also think it would provide the balance. In any case, it is their demand, not ours. I, incidentally, think that we can do without an international conference. In the wake of this, the question arose as to what the rules of this conference would be. And in order to determine the rules, a proposal was raised to set up a preparatory committee. King Husayn said that a preparatory committee could be of various natures. Basically, it could comprise only the parties in the region, namely, let us say, Jordan, Egypt, Israel, and the Palestinians, and perhaps Morocco if it wants; or the five permanent members of the Security Council could also be included in the preparatory conference. Actually, if they want to include the five permanent members of the Security Council, then it is no longer a preparatory conference, it is a full-fledged conference. Another proposal was raised which, in my opinion, is totally ridiculous. This proposal suggested that the preparations for the conference be carried out solely by the five Security Council members.
[Sagiv] Without the countries in the Middle East.
[Peres] Without these countries. An analogous situation would be a wedding to which neither the bride nor the groom was invited, but to which the five in-laws who do not agree among themselves and who do not agree to the wedding either are invited. What will emerge from this? It is a pity to waste the time.

[Kohen] Mr Peres, you mentioned three Arab countries — Egypt, Morocco, Jordan — that in principle agree to take part in an international conference. What is the factor that is holding up the conference? Could you mention any progress in contacts with Jordan on this issue?
[Peres] What is holding up the convening of the conference and direct negotiations are certain differences of opinion over the rules according to which the international conference would operate. There are a number of rules on which all are in agreement. There are several rules which still remain in dispute.

[Kohen] Sir, are you prepared to specify those issues which are still under dispute?
[Peres] First, regarding the participation of those countries which do not have diplomatic relations with one of the sides — for us this means the USSR and China, but for the Syrians this means Britain — what should be done about them? Second, who will represent the Palestinians? What will be the criteria for representing the Palestinians? Third, what if the conference is deadlocked? These are the three questions that should be answered.

[Sagiv] Permit me to return to the question of who will represent the Palestinians: Is there a chance of reaching an agreement on this matter?
[Peres] I used the term authentic Palestinians. What I meant is that we will not rule out any single Palestinian due to his views or positions, but we will rule out anyone who is carrying a pistol or a knife. Namely, anybody can say anything he pleases, but nobody can kill the enemy.

[Kohen] Following the Alexandria summit, Mr Peres, can you point to any progress, any change in relations between Egypt and Israel?
[Peres] Definitely yes. First, the energy and infrastructure minister has just returned from Egypt. There was an exchange of messages. I believe there was also a change in the tone of the communications media in both countries. This takes time of course, but I see an overall improvement. I also see that Egypt is more prepared to act on the peace process and other issues.

[Sagiv] Is there a chance of holding additional meetings between you and President Mubarak and between Mr Shamir and President Mubarak?
[Peres] This question should be addressed to President Mubarak.

[Sagiv] Initiatives can also be launched by Israel.
[Peres] You did not ask me about an initiative but about a meeting. I cannot answer you on this matter, but I surely foresee additional meetings in the future.

[Kohen] If possible, can you, Mr Peres, specify what was in President Mubarak's messages?
[Peres] No, I cannot go into detail. It is not that I like quiet diplomacy, but when you put a title on anything, any process

which is just beginning, it gets nipped in the bud, since a process needs to be checked out. If you publicize a process you at once attract all possible opposition. Since I admit that there are wiser people in the communications media than among the statesmen, these people kill us off; we have no chance of making progress.

[Sagiv] Is it impossible to publicize a process and gain all possible support?
[Peres] Not at the beginning; the process, after all, pertains to the Arab side and not only us. After all, we are not conducting negotiations only with ourselves. If this were a purely internal matter, I would not see any reason for not publicizing everything. The trouble is that we have an Arab world around us with different views, and if a process is publicized prematurely, its continuation is jepardized.

[Kohen] Mr Peres, let us go over to another subject. Over the last 2 weeks we have witnessed a wave of rioting in Jerusalem. How do you view the future of relations between the two peoples in this city?
[Peres] This matter is serious and I am very much concerned. I hope that these incidents will not recur. Let me say clearly: Peaceful coexistence should definitely be maintained. Responsibility is shouldered by the majority, and I view ourselves as responsible, first and foremost, for seeing law, safety, and peace maintained for every Jerusalem resident, whether Jew or Arab, whether Muslim or Christian. I believe it is in all citizens' interests to prevent violence from pervading our lives like a knife in the stomach, threatening the survival of the body. Let me add my conviction that the decisive majority of the Jerusalem residents, Jews and Arabs alike, are indeed interested in this. I think that the decisive majority should prevent a group of fanatics or knife-wielders, whether on the Jewish or the Arab side — fanatics on the one side and knife-wielders on the other — from trying to destroy the most dramatic and exciting attempt being made in the Middle East for an enlightened existence among different faiths and different peoples.

[Sagiv] Mr Peres, you must have heard that the Knesset speaker this week said that acts of violence by certain residents toward East Jerusalem Arab citizens constitute perhaps the beginning of disintegration in Israeli society. Are you as concerned at this?
[Peres] I do not at all like this kind of generalization. I am not a prophet, nor do I think this must lead to disintegration. No, if this is what the Knesset speaker said, I do not agree with it. I believe this is a grave phenomenon but a surmountable one. The decisive majority of the Jerusalem residents should be enlisted in the effort to maintain Jerusalem as a city of peace, as a city sacred to the three faiths, as a city which displays coexistence among different peoples.

[Kohen] Mr Peres, have the incidents we witnessed caused damage to Jerusalem's status as well as to the image of the State of Israel? Practically speaking, what is the government doing on the subject?
[Peres] I assume this has caused damage, and the question is whether this damage is reparable or not. The government should act on many levels, first in addressing the public: We should have a Jerusalem without knives, a Jerusalem without violence and blood. Later, in my opinion, the government should also use the necessary forces, and there was indeed a reinforcing of such forces during the incidents. Also, the culprits should be brought to trial without compassion and regardless of who they are. There is no difference between Jewish and Arab crime; there is only crime. A government should fight crime with all forces and measures at its disposal.

Let me comment here: Marcelle earlier asked me about the Knesset speaker's comments. To my great regret, in every city nowadays there are occasional outbursts of violence. Urbanization, life in the city, apparently occasionally triggers the eruption of agression which should be prevented and overcome.

[Sagiv] Do you believe though that it will be possible to cope with these phenomena shortly?
[Peres] I hope so, since this is the interest and desire of most people. This is also the resolute opinion of the government. Luckily, we also have an excellent mayor who conducts himself with a great deal of wisdom, responsibility, and courage. I am referring to Teddy Kollek, of course. The city which he runs is very lucky, I believe.

Contra Connection Not Known

TA301119 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 30 Nov 86 pp 1, 2

[Report by defense correspondent Hirsh Goodman]

[Text] Senior Israeli officials are confident that Israel's role in the Iran arms affair will recede from the headlines in coming days. But they expect the reverberations to continue to shake the Reagan administration with even greater intensity during this week.

These officials are concerned about the consequences of the in-depth investigation currently under way, especially regarding potential findings on the personal roles of President Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz, both close friends of Israel, in the attempt to circumvent Congress in supplying aid to the contras from the proceeds of the arms sale to Iran.

With regard to Israel's role it was made clear to *The Jerusalem Post* by a top level source that:

— Israel has assumed beyond doubt that it was carrying out the wishes of the president on the arms sale.
— Israel had absolutely no knowledge that the money deposited in a Swiss bank account by the Iranians was being transferred to the contras. It learnt about the development only hours before the news became public.
— No monies from the deal came through Israel.

The Israeli second-echelon officials (David Kimche, then director-general of the Foreign Ministry, and 'Amiram Nir, the prime minister's adviser on terror) carried out their duties according to ministeral guidelines and took no private initiatives.

The source further told *The Post* that while it was still unclear whether the Israeli principals would be questioned by the U.S. special commission investigating the affair, Israel would cooperate fully "since it had nothing to hide, and had acted within the framework of the special relationship that governs relations between the two countries."

It was made clear to *The Post* that Israel's cooperation was not "renegade, or outside the formal framework" of U.S.-Israel relations, but "consistent with administration policy directives and fully coordinated with all pertinent levels of the administration." The investigation would only confirm these claims, the source said.

The Post was given specific information about the evolution of the 1986 arms sale to Iran, including dates of inter-governmental meetings on the subject and the level of these meetings, and was told that "Israel heard of the transfer of monies to the contras less than a day before the news was made public."

Had Israeli policy-makers known of the contra connection, its attitude on the sale of anti-aircraft missiles, anti-armour missiles and spare parts to Iran would have been different, the sources said.

"Israel, so dependent on the goodwill of Congress for its aid package, special allocations for the Lavi project and a dozen other issues," would not have jeopardized its relations with Congress by being party to an attempt to circumvent it, the source said.

"While there was much to be gained in the tactical sense from going ahead with the administration's proposal, we would not have done this at the risk of our excellent relations with the incumbent Congress," *The Post* was told.

On the question of who originally came up with the idea of supplying weapons to Iran in return for the release of American hostages being held by pro-Iranian Shi'ite terrorists, a senior source said that "who proposed the idea is not relevant now. What is relevant is that when a senior administration official approaches you with a detailed outline for action, you assume that he is acting on the authority of the president."

"I can guarantee you," the source concluded, "that a colonel in the National Security Council (Oliver North) does not run American foreign policy by himself. The thought is too absurd to contemplate."

Shamir Adviser Questioned

TA301156 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 30 Nov 86 p 3

[Report by Ilan Kfir and Pe'erli Shahar]

[Excerpt] 'Amiram Nir, the prime minister's antiterrorism adviser, underwent a long debriefing last week on the arms deals with Iran and the bank account in Switzerland which belongs to the contra underground. Over the last few days Yitzhaq Shamir, Shim'on Peres, and Yitzhaq Rabin have been checking all aspects of the Iranian affair and the way it was conducted.

Nir firmly denied any knowledge of the Swiss bank account. According to Nir, he had nothing to do with the financial matters between the two countries.

Nir is still serving as the prime minister's antiterrorism adviser, senior government sources reported.

A decision on Nir's dismissal has not yet been made on the senior political level, despite reports in *The Washington Post* and in other international papers. The reason is that Shamir is afraid that Nir's dismissal would be tantamount to Israel's confession of responsibility for the Iranian connection.

According to the assessment of political sources Nir will not be replaced before the end of the U.S. investigation into the affair. It was reported from Shamir's office that, according to the agreement with Shim'on Peres, Shamir may replace 'Amiram Nir any time he wishes to do so. Shamir intends to appoint to the position a person with a clear military past.

The Israeli Embassy in Washington received guidelines for its information campaign, according to which Israel's involvement in the affair began at the request of Robert McFarlane, former national security adviser. Israel's information continues to emphasize that Israel had nothing to do with the Swiss bank account and that it did not know about it.

Appearances by senior U.S. Administration officials in special television programs arouse fears in Israel of possible additional disclosures that may harm Israel's status. [passage omitted]

Nimrodi Interview

TA300715 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Interview with weapons dealer Ya'aqov Nimrodi by program moderator David Grossman — live via telephone]

[Text] [Grossman] A new name has popped up on the stage of the weapons deal with Iran: Ya'aqov Nimrodi, an Israeli businessman who lives in London. This morning he is in Israel, and we have him on the other end of the telephone line. Good morning, Mr Nimrodi.
[Nimrodi] Good morning.

[Grossman] Mr Nimrodi, in what way were you involved in the attempt to release U.S. hostages in Lebanon?
[Nimrodi] Look, I think the most simple thing is to read the statement I prepared. Okay?

[Grossman] I prefer to ask you questions so that we can hear some more nuances.

[Nimrodi] Okay, but first let me read the statement, then you can ask me questions. I want to state that since the fall of the Iranian shah and the rise of Khomeynism I have not made even one tiny deal with Iran, neither directly nor indirectly. Let me repeat: not even one deal, neither directly nor indirectly. When the U.S. hostages were kidnapped and disappeared in Lebanon a meeting was held in the office of a very senior Israeli official, and the proposal was raised that I use my extensive connections in the world and my acquaintance with certain elements in Tehran in order to try to ascertain whether there was any way to bring about the release of the U.S. hostages. All this was humanitarian aid to a friendly country and a close ally who was in difficulty.

[Grossman] Perhaps you could tell us what are your connections in Iran?
[Nimrodi] No, I cannot tell you. How can I tell you what my connections are? I acted just as I was asked to, with the cooperation of others, and as a result of this action the cleric Benjamin Weir was freed on 19 September 1985. I want you to know that the release of this hostage was exactly as the U.S. President described it when he met British Prime Minister Thatcher a week ago, when he said that what he approved for shipment could be carried on one plane, and there would still be empty space left! My involvement, as I described, was limited to a patriotic mission carried out at the request of the country's leaders, without any compensation. Following the release of the priest the Americans apparently reached the conclusion that they could bring about the release of the other hostages without my help, and therefore they continued the negotiations without me. At that time my friends and myself were asked to end our involvement in the affair. I got out of the matter completely, and was not involved in any more moves.

[Grossman] Mr Nimrodi, you said that the country's leaders approached you. Are you referring to the three former prime ministers [Shamir, Peres and Rabin]?
[Nimrodi] If you hear me out you will understand. Earlier I said that I received nothing in return for my action. I want to correct this and say that the only thing I got in return was the deep appreciation and blessings of then Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin. This was the only thing I got in return for my efforts, and it occurred on the same day the first hostage was released.

[Grossman] Can I ask you some questions now?
[Nimrodi] Gladly, if I can answer them.

[Grossman] From what you say it appears that the people who approached you were Peres and Rabin. Were those the people who asked you to help?
[Nimrodi] I cannot answer these questions. I think you should settle for what I said, I do not want to go into details. I think it is not healthy.

[Grossman] Permit me to ask you another question or two. You can naturally refuse to answer. Do you know what happened to the money received in exchange for the weapons?
[Nimrodi] I have absolutely no idea. I have no idea. I was completely out of the picture. From the very beginning I was not in the picture.

[Grossman] Do you think this affair caused Israel any damage?
[Nimrodi] I do not know. It is extremely difficult to assess this at present. I think that one thing happened for certain, and that is that the Americans benefited from this. I believe the hostages will be released, and who knows what links the United States will develop with Iran. That is all. I am not willing to say anything more.

[Grossman] Thank you very much, Mr Nimrodi.

Arms Dealers 'Made Millions'

TA301141 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 30 Nov 86 p 3

[Report by Ilan Kfir]

[Text] Ya'aqov Nimrodi and Al Schwimmer made millions of dollars from the transportation of arms to Iran. It has been learned from authoritative sources that the two did not receive commission for the arms deal itself. Nimrodi and Schwimmer were responsible for transporting the arms to Iran via air and sea. They leased the transportation means and it is estimated that they received large sums of money in the form of commissions.

A senior government official claims that Nimrodi and Schwimmer carried out private arms deals with the Iranians, making millions of dollars in profits that way. These deals were made without the direct intervention of the Israeli Government.

The senior official said one should check whether these two arms dealers did not use their special status and the ability to act on Israel's behalf for the promotion of their private businesses with Iran. Nimrodi and Schwimmer kept quiet on the affair.

'Middlemen' Tied to Swiss Account

TA301240 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 30 Nov 86 p 1

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] Israeli middlemen meddled with the Swiss bank account and this may explain the disappearance of millions of dollars from the account. This was stated by a senior government official to *Ha'aretz*.

Senior ministers in the Alignment and the Likud demand that the investigation into the Iran issue be continued, among other things in order to check whether Israel did or did not have anything to do with the transfer of money to the contras.

It was announced by the Foreign Ministry last night that Israel had thus far not received a U.S. request to interrogate government officials on the Iran arms affair. If such a request reaches Jerusalem, senior sources say, Israel will be unable to oppose the interrogation of government officials.

Tzvi Bar'el reports from Washington that at the end of last week U.S. Secretary of State Shultz met with Israeli Ambassador Me'ir Rosenne. According to one of the sources the two discussed the possible interrogation of Israelis by Americans. It should be noted that arms dealer Ya'aqov Nimrodi, who was a key person in the affair, is not obligated to cooperate with the interrogators.

Contra Leader Interviewed

TA282030 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1835 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] What kind of Israeli involvement is there in Nicaragua? In a special telephone interview for this program, Adolfo Calero, the contra leader in Nicaragua, said that the contras did not receive weapons from Israel, but would be grateful if Israel did send arms. Our correspondent Hanan 'Azran reports on the Israeli involvement in the weapons trade in Central American countries:

['Azran -- live] Israel had good ties with Nicaragua during the reign of President Somoza. Agricultural experts and reciprocal visits were held by senior officials from both countries, and they were mixed with the military assistance, which included weapons and other equipment. After the Sandinistas gained control over the country, the official ties were broken off. In July 1983, *The New York Times* for the first time published a special report on a request made by the Reagan Administration that Israel supply the contras with mines, light ammunition, mortars, and artillery. Although Israel denied this, foreign reports repeatedly indicated that President Reagan, who confronted a negative attitude in Congress toward White House involvement in Central America, wished to use Israel as a line to supply the rebels with weapons. This evening, we contacted the contra leader over the telephone. We asked Adolfo Calero whether he fears that now, in view of the latest events, the Americans would now stop aiding the contras, and whether he is, on the other hand, satisfied with the ties he has with Israel?

[Begin Calero recording in English] Well, I believe that the crisis in Israel and South America has merit of its own and cannot be looked at in the context of a situation that has not been forced by force and that in which we have absolutely no responsibility. So it is true we do not put an end to U.S. aid to these Nicaraguan resistors. They have not received any aid from Israel, and that does not mean we would not appreciate if we did receive, and we would be grateful. But we have not received any aid. [end recording]

['Azran] Adolfo Calero, who had been a Coca Cola representative during Somoza's times, lives in his fancy headquarters in Miami, in the United States, and from there, in conjunction with his brother, Mario Calero, he conducts the arms deals with his men. The U.S. lobbying for the freedom fighters is being done by (Ret.) U.S. General Singlaub. The way to reach these people is not easy, and only those who win their full trust reach the training camps and can negotiate the supply of weapons and military equipment.

The contra leaders have personal friends in Israel, who fit these criteria. One of them, a weapons trading consultant, recently visited Nicaragua. Here is his report on the situation among the fighters there and their ties with Israel.

[Begin recording]['Azran] What type of assistance to they seek?
[Unidentified man, shown in silhouette only] I would say that they want light arms and ammunition. There is no room there for tank fighting. These guys would like to have Israeli instructors for small units who would advise them and train them in the field. They are spread over vast areas.

['Azran] Who are the people who roam about those areas? Perhaps you could throw in some famous names?
[Unidentified consultant] No, I will not enter into that. In general, I would not give any information on the people who are there.

['Azran] Would you, at least, call them senior Army officers, so that we could understand whom you are talking about?
[Unidentified consultant] I cannot mention names. Let me say but one thing: That in addition to our group, others can also be seen there.

['Azran] What do you mean?
[Unidentified consultant] Exactly what I said: Other people can be seen there, too.

['Azran] Has this fabric of meetings in Nicaragua in the field we are dealing with also included meetings with CIA figures?
[Unidentified consultant] Yes. The CIA is involved. I would describe the CIA as the supervisor, and....

['Azran, interrupting] How is this evident in your meetings?
[Unidentified consultant] I am willing to give one answer: It is evident with these guys in a meeting that was held upon receipt of the consignments. They actually met the deliveries. This is a direct outcome of a certain policy that was created there.

['Azran] How are negotiations with the contras being conducted?
[Unidentified consultant] I conducted negotiations with the contras for a few days in a country neighboring Nicaragua. The security measures they employed were, to my mind, excellent. There exists the fear, and they are constantly afraid of being discovered. We sat in the home of the person who is, I believe, today the number one man in this system: (Negro Chamaro), or at least this is his alias. We were presented with a few lists.

['Azran] In what form?
[Unidentified consultant] One of his officers brought along lists of what they need.

['Azran] How did they behave toward you as Israelis?
[Unidentified consultant] Exceptionally.

['Azran] How could you tell?
[Unidentified consultant] You could feel it. You could feel after only 1 day in these people's company as though you have lived together for years. I would say that as far as I personally was concerned, they were very open to the point that I was wondering why they reveal contra secrets to me after a relatively short period of acquaintance. [end recording]

The Israeli arms sales in the Central American countries are being done primarily through the large Israeli weapons dealers, who have a so-called exclusive right over these areas. More modest deals involve representatives of private Israeli firms which also deal with arms trade. Among the big names mentioned in Central America are Pesah Ben-or and Marcus Katz. These had previously cooperated with each other, while today they are bitter competitors over the sales zones. Both employ reserve IDF officers and former defense establishment employees. This is how, since 1979, 'Arava and Kfir aircraft, Galil rifles, light ammunition, and even patrol boats were sold to Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and El Salvador.

In a recent report, the Tel Aviv University Strategic Studies Center stated that approximately 2 years ago, Israel increased its aid to Honduras, which lies on the Nicaraguan border. Then

Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon reportedly took action to tighten arms supplies relations with Honduras. Minister Sharon visited Central American countries at the time, at the head of a large party, which also included his friend Marcus Katz.

Foreign and U.S. companies, which also benefit from the direct U.S. funds to these countries, also deal with arms sales in Central American countries. One of them is the Sherwood International Export Company, whose subsidiary has offices in Tel Aviv. The company has regular ties with the defense establishment and its weapons sales branch, SIBAT [not further identified].

Anti-Khomeyniites Leaked Story

TA020833 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 2 Dec 86 p 1

[Report by defense correspondent Hirsh Goodman]

[Excerpts] The Beirut newspaper report of U.S. arms sales to Iran that set off the current crisis in the Reagan administration was based on information from Iranians opposed to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, *The Jerusalem Post* has learned.

Until now it was assumed that Syrian intelligence had leaked the story in late October to the pro-Syrian newspaper *Al-Shira'*. This was seen as a bid by Damascus to strike back at President Reagan after the U.S. took a strongly anti-Syrian stance in the wake of the Nizar al-Hindawi terror trial. [passage omitted]

Reliable sources have now told *The Post* that details of the deals were given to the paper by Iranian elements opposed to Khomeyni — probably by the faction led by former Iranian president AbdolHasan Bani-Sadr, who is now based in Paris.

Bani-Sadr is known to retain excellent contacts with important figures in the Iranian regime.

The goal, *The Post* was told, was to show that both Reagan and Khomeyni were hypocrites, and to spread distrust between the ayatollah and his closest aides.

Weizman Urges Strong Measures

TA280622 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Minister 'Ezer Weizman spoke about the weapons deal between the United States and Iran yesterday. Here is an excerpt of his comments:

[Begin Weizman recording] It is true that we too have been caught by our tails more than once, and we have had to return many prisoners in exchange for our men who fell captive. First, the situation is very different when the people in question are taken prisoner during battle. I would like to take this opportunity to wish our navigator, wherever he is, good health, and that he return home. I hope we will find the right way and price to bring this boy, who jumped out of the Phantom near Sidon, back home.

Perhaps the time has come for the United States to think not only of how to enter negotiations with a superpower like Iran, which serves as a sort of go-between [last word in English] for a group of bastards in southern Lebanon who have captured several Americans who went there in the name of Western civilization as teachers, physicians, and instructors. If these people are caught by a group of bastards, the solution should not be of the sort that is under discussion today — and I am not criticizing here.

Perhaps the solution should be more in line with what happened in Libya — something that might prevent such affairs and not necessitate intervention after they happen. In other words, instead of killing mosquitoes, perhaps we will find the way to drain the swamps. I know that this is not easy. [end recording]

Government Ratifies Tabah Arbitration Bill

TA301117 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] The Cabinet today ratified the Tabah arbitration bill. Minister Ari'el Sharon demanded that the ratification be postponed until three conditions are met: that Egypt pay compensation to the families of those murdered in Ra's al-Burqah; that Egypt cancel the restrictions imposed on tourism to Israel; and that it close down the PLO offices in Cairo.

Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that Minister Sharon's proposals were rejected and the bill was ratified.

The arbitration between Israel and Egypt will begin in Geneva in about 2 weeks.

Close to the start of this process the two governments will exchange the ratified bills and the formal part of preparations for the arbitration will be over.

UK Source Says Vanunu Affair Damages Credibility

TA260804 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 26 Nov 86 p 2

[Report from London by David Horowitz]

[Text] Britain yesterday urged Israel to provide a "fuller explanation" of Vanunu's movements here, and particularly of the manner of his departure from Britain.

A Foreign Office spokesman told *The Jerusalem Post* last night that Britain would not be making another formal approach to the Israeli authorities, and that it accepted Israel's assurances that British law had not been broken in the course of Vanunu's stay in Britain and departure from the country. The spokesman added, however, that there was still a great deal of embarrassing speculation regarding Vanunu's departure, and that it would therefore be "helpful" to Britain if Israel provided further information.

Whitehall sources told *The Post* that Israel's credibility was suffering badly over the affair.

Vanunu Case To Be Heard Behind Closed Doors

TA301543 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1520 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] We will now go over to the Jerusalem District Court to hear an update about Mordekhay Vanunu's arrival. Our correspondent Alon Ben-David reports:

[Ben-David — live] The hearing has actually ended, but the remand of Vanunu in jail was not discussed at all. The debate about the latter subject has been postponed to another date.

What happened is that the hearing began with the State Attorney's request to hold the hearings behind closed doors. Vanunu's lawyer, Amnon Zikhroni, objected and demanded that hearings on the issue should be made public. After 40 minutes, Justice Tzvi Tal decided to reject Zikhroni's request and ruled that the hearings would be held behind closed doors.

In any event, at the request of his lawyer, Vanunu will remain under arrest until a date has been set for a discussion on his remand in jail. [passage omitted]

AL-FAJR Editorial Assails Reagan, Arab Rulers

TA281700 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 27 Nov 86 p 1

[Editorial: "Downfall in the White House"]

[Text] At present the U.S. Administration is occupied with putting its own house in order after being very occupied with the "houses" of others all over the world only a few days ago.

The U.S. Administration, with all its agencies and organizations, used to talk about terrorism and terrorists, and insisted that it was the "leader of the free world" in confronting them, until the "cards" were laid on the table and it transpired that the President of the United States himself, Ronald Reagan, headed the list of those who supplied Iran and its terrorist rulers with modern, lethal weapons!

The U.S. President tried to explain this "dilemma" in different ways but failed completely. He fell to quarreling in his White House with his advisers and secretaries in a public confrontation. Although the circle is still turning in the "House" around this adviser or that secretary — from Admiral John Poindexter who offered his resignation the day before yesterday, to George Shultz whose imminent downfall is being predicted by all observers — Ronald Reagan remains the sole person responsible for the "mistakes" piling up in the "White House."

We, in fact, are not concerned with this new American preoccupation, but we are necessarily concerned with the conclusions to be drawn from this clear U.S. "position." The first and major lesson, as far as it concerns us, is the necessity of linking the Arab policy with the pan-Arab interests of the nations of this region. The United States, which is one of the two superpowers in the world, serves only its own interests in all its policies in the region. Many Arab countries that run in the U.S. orbit have paid a heavy price for this. The U.S. interest in supplying Iran with arms will not be the last link in this episode.

Consequently, any one of our Arab rulers who thinks that the "White House" is the house of his father and grandfather must revise his "calculations" well before one day being thrown out of this house!

Perhaps Jordan is the first Arab country that needs such a revision before time runs out. It will find, through a correct conclusion, that its stable relations with the PLO constitute a better support for it and is pan-Arab positions than all the plans and solutions of Washington.

AL-FAJR Urges End of 'Pogrom' Against Arabs

TA282005 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English 28 Nov 86 p 5

[Editorial: "Stop the Pogrom"]

[Text] Pogroms by Jewish extremists against unarmed Palestinian residents of Jerusalem would not have continued and intensified over the past two weeks if the Israeli establishment had not closed its eyes and pretended, for the sake of public relations, that the situation wasn't serious.

Dozens of Arab homes, shops and businesses have been firebombed, stoned or set ablaze, and residents have been the target of random attacks by groups of Jewish thugs who were left to roam Old City streets while police stood by. The handful of vigilantes who were arrested were released shortly afterwards and allowed to go back to their wanton attacks.

Eight Arab families who were compelled to leave their homes because of continuous attacks and threats were left to sleep out in the cold night air or to seek temporary housing with generous relatives and friends. Neither the Israeli municipality of Jerusalem nor the police force bothered to safeguard their return home. Instead they offered them alternative housing "until the riots blow over," as if Jewish violence against Arabs and their property were a legitimate practice that should be allowed to run its course.

Even now that the evicted families have gone home following the intervention of Arab MK's, there is no guarantee for their safety.

At a time when Arab residents were prevented from displaying any protest over the injustice done to them, hundreds of Jews were given police protection on their march through the predominently Arab Old City while they incited the public with racist anti-Arab obscenities.

When residents from the Shemuel Hanavi neighborhood publicly declared on TV that they would stone any Arab car passing through their area during the seven days after the killing, police and officials nodded their heads as if that were a legitimate practice, understandable "because of their grief."

Why did police so quickly retract their assertions that the Jewish yeshiva students have secret weapons caches? If police indeed know of weapons tucked away in Jewish homes and schools in the Old City, why haven't they confiscated them?

Are the police unable to contain the violence, or are they colluding with the KAKH and Gush Emunim extremists who hope to exploit the death of a Jewish student for their campaign to drive all Arabs out of the Old City?

Although more lip service is paid to condemning the anti-Arab violence, the lack of action indicates tacit police approval for the viglantes' actions.

It is the responsibility of the Israeli occupation authorities, by virtue of international law, to insure the safety of the Palestinian residents under occupation.

If the Israeli government fails to do its duty, it becomes a partner in the assaults against Arabs.

Foreign Currency Reserves 'Soared' in November

TA020839 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 2 Dec 86 p 2

[Report by Pinhas Landau]

[Text] Israel's foreign currency reserves soared by almost $1 billion in November to their highest level since early 1983. The receipt of the U.S. government's $1.2 billion economic aid package for the American fiscal year 1987 pushed the total reserves figure through the $4 billion mark, to stand at $4.262b.

In fact, the official reserves rose by only $938m., according to Bank of Israel figures released yesterday, and not by the full $1.2b. transferred by the U.S. Treasury.

Although not formally confirmed, it is believed that the Israeli government used part of the aid to pay off a foreign debt that carries a significantly higher interest rate than that obtainable on deposits on international money markets — the form in whch the reserves are held.

The Treasury, meanwhile, announced that the government had absorbed NIS [new Israeli shekels] 39m. from the public in November. This net figure resulted from conflicting money flows in the government's "real operations," meaning all spending other than on debt servicing, which showed a surplus of NIS 133m. as against its capital market operations, which showed a deficit of NIS 173m.

Sharon, French Foreign Trade Minister Confer

TA301904 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Israel and France are to look into ways of stepping up trade. Commerce and Industry Minister Ari'el Sharon met the French Foreign Trade Minister, Michel Noir, in Jerusalem today, and they decided to pay particular attention to possibilities in the field of advanced technology. More from reporter Shlomo Berger:

[Begin recording] [Berger] Both Sharon and Noir expressed dissatisfaction over the present low-level of trade between the two countries, but said they will work together to make it increase in the future. In 1985 Israel exported $276 million worth of goods to France, while France exported $306 million worth of its products to Israel. Today it was agreed that Sharon will lead a delegation of industrialists to France on a reciprocal visit in January, and in May, 12 French firms will participate in a high-technology exhibition in Israel.

The main hindrance to commerce between the two countries is that French Government companies are not buying from Israel despite a law against boycotting Israeli products. Such companies do, however, buy extensively from Arab businesses. On the other hand, Israeli Government firms purchased over $70 million worth of goods from the French in 1985. Noir was asked about French reluctance to buy from Israel despite the anti-boycott law.

[Noir] The French Government cannot give orders to a public firm but, of course, we can give signals and say things publicly that will precisely say to them that there is no problem, so we hope that we'll get rid of that kind of reluctance.

[Berger] Up to this afternoon's meeting with Sharon, Noir also held talks with Foreign Minister Peres and Prime Minister Shamir. [end recording]

ALGERIA

GDR Delegation Arrives, Holds Talks with FLN

LD011312 Algiers APS in English 1007 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Algiers, 01 Dec 86 (APS) — At the invitation of the FLN party, a delegation of the Unified Socialist Party of the German Democratic Republic (SED) arrived Sunday here for an official visit to Algeria. The delegation is led by Gerhard Mueller, supply Politburo member and head of the federation of the SED Erfurt District.

Gerhard told the press that this visit will enable the two sides to examine bilateral relations between the two parties and the signature of an agreement for the reinforcement of secular relations between the two friendly countries.

Talks were held Sunday here between the delegation of the SED and an FLN party delegation led by Abderrezzak Bouhara, member of the CC Permanent Secretariat in charge of external relations.

During the talks, the two sides exchanged information on the evolution and action of the two parties and dealt with international problems and questions of common interest.

LIBYA

JANA Editor Views U.S. Link With Oman Exercises

LD020946 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0720 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Tripoli, 1 Dec (JANA) — It is reported that 12 B-52 strategic bombers of the U.S. Air Force have landed on (?Okinawa) in southern Japan.

This U.S. military move coincides with the gigantic maneuvers being carried out by the forces of the U.S. stationary aircraft carrier Britain in Oman and the Gulf region, which have been described as the biggest maneuvers to be carried out by the forces of the carrier in the region for 20 years.

The JANA international affairs editor commented on these U.S.-Atlantic military moves. He said:

Saber-rattling is still clearly heard from the U.S.-Atlantic camps. The objective is still, as always, to surround the socialist camp, at the forefront of which is the Soviet Union, in preparation for a military blow against it, irrespective of any dangerous consequences that would ensue from such a blow on all the peoples of the globe.

The Administration of Israel's rabid dog, which is drowning in a sea of acute internal scandals and crises these days, is thinking of fleeing forward.

Israel's rabid dog, whose political death has become virtually guaranteed, is seeking to crown his terroristic record by a last act that could result in the end of the world.

The recent grave U.S. strategic nuclear moves and the statements of the child-killer, Thatcher, on intensifying the British military presence in the Arab Gulf are all new evidence of the U.S.-Atlantic terrorist plan aimed in the first place against the people of the Soviet Union and its allies in the East European states.

Since the arrival of Israel's rabid dog to power, the extent of his hatred and animosity against the Soviet Union and the rest of the socialist camp has become clear. All his decisions and plans were fully directed toward preparing a campaign of hatred on all political, economic, military and informational fronts against the Soviet Union.

Anyone who carefully studies the statements of the U.S. military NATO leaders should be fully convinced that the Administration of Israel's rabid dog has began to beat the drums of war and that the U.S. plan to attack the Soviet Union military has begun its countdown phase.

The world's progressive and peace-loving peoples should unite in order to deter Israel's old rabid dog from carrying out an act that could cost the world its existence.

Weekly on Resignation of U.S. Officials

LD011511 Tripoli JANA in English 1421 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Kanoun 1, Jamahiriyah News Agency — *The Green March* weekly, published by the revolutionary committees, out today in an article entitled "The Hyenas are Dying" says that the U.S. Administration is immoral, for it has insulted and degraded the U.S. people.

It has also waged a disinformation campaign against peoples worldwide and especially against the Libyan Arab people.

Child killer Reagan, to justify his aggression against Libya, has alleged that it is involved in terrorism.

He, together with Jewish Shultz and his war minister Weinberger, has orchestrated a disinformation and slander campaign against great Al-Jamahiriyah.

When Kalb resigned as spokesman for the U.S. State Department, we in great Al-Jamahiriyah said that more resignations and dismissals would follow at the U.S. Dark House. This has come to be true as Poindexter and Lt. Colonel North have been dismissed.

As regards Shultz and Weinberger their future is still uncertain.

When the Reagan administration in their bombing raid on Libya dropped its bombs on Libyan Arab civilians, we, in Libya predicted that these same bombs would blow off inside the murkey Dark House in the U.S. to rock its foundations.

Child killer Reagan is so terrified because of the complete loss of his credibility and being too afraid to face the American public opinion has fled to his orchard in California leaving behind a tottering administration.

The U.S. people have realized that their President is a liar and that only big monopolist firms have brought him into office.

Undoubtedly, this people will settle its account with Reagan's administration which has wrought havoc on the world at large.

The U.S. people have realized now how to reshape the natural course of policy of the U.S. towards all the peoples all over the world, having discovered the damage done to the U.S. by the gangsters of the Dark House.

These gangs of the Dark House officials, or rather hyenas, are dying now because of the crimes they have committed against humanity.

Special Arab League Session Called For

LD291608 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1517 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Tripoli, 29 Nov (JANA) — JANA has learned that the Great Jamahiriyah has called for convening an extraordinary meeting of the Arab League Council and the Joint Arab Defense Council to discuss the question of Zionist nuclear weapons, Zionist involvement in the U.S. Star Wars project, and the U.S. consent to deal with the Zionists as it deals with NATO member-states, despite the fact that the Zionists are not members of NATO.

This action is part of the role the Great Jamahiriyah is playing on the national level in order to repel the dangers threatening the Arab nation that are aimed at its very existence and culture.

The Syrian Arab Republic, the PDRY, and Palestine have sponsored the request. In accordance with the Arab League Charter, the Arab League Secretariat is bound to convene such an extraordinary meeting.

Syrian Military Official Arrives for Talks

LD012023 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1615 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text]Tripoli, 1 Dec(JANA)—Colonel Khalil Bahlul, chairman of the Administrative Council and director general of the Syrian Arab Military Housing Corporation, arrived in Tripoli at noon today on a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah.

In a statement to the press Col Bahlul stressed that his visit to the Great Jamahiriyah comes within the framework of [word indistinct] and developing fraternal relations, and to discuss means of bolstering them in all spheres between the two brotherly countries. Col Bahlul condemned the tendentious campaigns being waged by imperialist and colonialist circles against the Great Jamahiriyah and Syria, stressing the need to firmly establish and consolidate the ties of brotherhood and to expand the scope of cooperation and the political, economic, and social integration between them in a way that will bring common benefit to the two brotherly countries.

MAURITANIA

Mauritanian Black African Agitation Described

AB011034 Paris AFP in French 1158 GMT 28 Nov 86

[By Patrice Collen]

[Text] Nouakchott, 28 Nov (AFP) — Confronted for a few months now with increasing agitation from black activist circles, Mauritania, which celebrated its 26th independence anniversary on 28 November, is passing through one of the most serious crises since 1960. This occurs at the very moment when the country is trying to democratize its political life.

Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya's regime, in power for 2 years in Mauritania, has been facing a rise in black-African activism for a few months now since the publication last April of an "Oppressed Black-African Manifesto"; the arrest last September of several tens of persons, including about 30 senior black-African cadres; the conviction of about 20 persons for "attacks on national unity"; and finally the acts of violence in October against public and private properties in Nouakchott and Nouadhibou, the economic capital of the country.

This agitation was mainly led by the African Liberation Forces of Mauritania (FLAM), a clandestine organization created in 1983 to fight, according to one of its spokesmen in Dakar, the increasing Arabization of society and counter the influence of the various influential pro-Arab movements.

In its "Oppressed Black-African Manifesto," which was notably distributed at the Harare nonaligned summit in September, the organization criticizes "the Mauritanian apartheid," and the "Beidane System" which, according to the organization, ensures the political and economic domination of the Arab-Berbers to the detriment of the black-African ethnic groups (Toucouleurs, Fulani, Soninkes, and Wollofs).

The black opposition denounces the "fictitious statistics" showing that the black-African ethnic groups only represent 20 percent of the population, whereas according to the organization, they are in the majority now. These accusations are described as "ridiculous" by Mauritanian govermment officials, who emphasize that the blacks are largely represented at all levels of the administration and government, and that they are even over-represented in some sectors. One-third of children attending school are blacks and 90 percent of agricultural investments are made in the south, where black-African ethnic groups are established, the same sources stress.

A population census conducted in 1977, whose data on ethnic distribution was not published, puts the black-African population at 17 percent, and according to recent statistics, the Moors remain the majority ethnic group, even in the southern part of the country, the same official sources point out.

Interior Minister Djibril Ould Abdellah refuses to look at the problem in statistical terms. "There is one fundamental thing: We are all Muslims and as such the bonds linking us are even more solid," he said in an interview with AFP. A former army chief of staff, Lieutenant Colonel Ould Abdellah in August replaced Colonel Anne Amadou Babali, a Toucouleur, dismissed for covering up the black agitation.

According to the interior minister, the acts of violence committed in these few weeks are serious, but it is the work of a "nucleus of about forty persons" without any popular support. According to Lt Col Ould Abdellah, the movement has been beheaded, the ring leaders have been arrested, and some of them have been sent to the criminal courts for trial.

Mauritanian authorities have on several occasions denounced the "external support" that the black opposition movements receive. These accusations, according to the interior minister, are not "aimed necessarily at countries of black Africa." According to observers, these accusations could be aimed at Libya, but it could also be aimed at Algeria and the Polisario, who are not happy with the recent rapprochement between Nouakchott and Rabat. These accusations were categorically denied by black-African spokesmen, who stressed, however, that their movement had contacted some Senegalese opposition parties, notably those of the extreme left, and also tried to sensitize the ruling Senegalese Socialist Party.

The black-African agitation comes at a time when Mauritania is experimenting with the democratization of its political life by organizing the first free municipal elections since independence. These elections, for which the election campaign was launched on 28 November, will take place on 19 and 26 December and concern the 13 chief towns of the regions. A maximum of four lists are authorized for a poll, which the authorities deliberately want to be nonpolitical.

"We have never known what democracy is," the minister of interior stressed, recalling that Mauritania's recent history has been marked by the rule of Moktar Ould Daddah's single party, the Mauritanian People's Party, and after his fall, by the total absence of elections.

This democratization of the political life is expected to be extended in 1987 to all the chief towns of departments, then in 1988 to all the chief towns of districts.

MOROCCO

Prime Minister Talks With Visiting Belgian Minister

LD011631 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Belgian Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans, who has been on an official visit to Morocco since last Friday, was received by Prime Minister Dr Azzedine Laraki this morning and by House of Representatives Speaker Ahmed Osman.

The discussions with the prime minister covered bilateral relations between the two friendly countries. On this occasion, Dr Azzedine Laraki pointed out the common desire to strengthen and expand cooperation between the Moroccan and the Belgian kingdoms. Prime Minister Dr Azzedine Laraki and Belgian Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans discussed the future of Morocco's relations with the EEC and ways to safeguard the legitimate interest of Morocco in general. The two sides also discussed the current problems and the situation in the region.

The talks were attended by the minister's adviser and the director of European and American relations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation.

After this, Leo Tindemans and his accompanying delegation paid a friendly courtesy visit to House of Representatives Speaker Ahmed Osman. The talks covered the good relations between Morocco and Belgium. The speaker of the House of Representatives presented a brief outline on the development of democracy and parliamentary life in Morocco.

Hassan Receives Portuguese, Belgian Ministers

LD012247 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II, accompanied by His Royal Highness the crown prince, Prince Mohamed, received this morning at the royal court in Rabat Portuguese Minister of Internal Administration Eurico de Melo, who delivered to His Majesty a special message from Portuguese President Mario Soares. The audience was attended by Minister of Interior and Information Driss Basri, His Majesty's adviser Ahmed Rida Guidera, and the Portuguese ambassador to Rabat.

His Majesty also received Belgian Minister of Foreign Affairs Leo Tindemans, who is on a visit to Morocco. The audience was attended by Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Abdellatif Filali, His Majesty's adviser Ahmed Rida Guidera, and the Belgian Ambassador to Rabat.

SUDAN

Al-Banna on Sudan-Egypt Agreements, Ties

JN011258 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1056 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Khartoum, 1 Dec (SUNA) — State Council Deputy Chairman Idris al-Banna has affirmed that Sudanese-Egyptian agreements will subjected to new standards in accordance with the interests of the two countries. He explained that in accordance with this step, which seeks to define relations between the two countries, the joint defence agreement is no longer valid.

Al-Banna announced that Egyptian-Sudanese relations are long-standing and should be promoted on a correct basis and in accordance with clear, objective, and sincere studies. It is noteworthy that in its statement to the Constituent Assembly, the government announced that all agreements between Sudan and other countries will be reconsidered.

On other matters, Al-Banna praised the Armed Forces' successes in the south. He called for interaction and solidarity between bodies operating in the south and the Armed Forces in order to reach joint administrative and military action as well as genuine cooperation to promote this part of the homeland in all fields.

Al-Mahdi Meets Egyptian Information Minister

JN011609 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Khartoum, 1 Dec (SUNA) — Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, prime minister and leader of the Al-Ummah Party, received here this afternoon Safwat al-Sharif, Egyptian information minister, assistant secretary general of the Egyptian NDP, and member of the NDP Political Bureau, in the presence of Culture and Inforamtion Minister Muhammad Tawfiq and Egyptian Ambassador in Khartoum Husayn Musharrafah.

Following the meeting, which lasted about 1 hour, Safwat al-Sahrif said he conveyed to Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi a verbal message from his brother Egyptian Prime Minister Dr ‘Atif Sidqi. Al-Sharif said the meeting dealt with bilateral relations and the two countries' eagerness to promote and develop these relations to achieve the common interests of the two fraternal peoples. The meeting also dealt with what was discussed during the meetings of the higher joint information committee under the Egyptian and Sudanese information ministers.

Al-Sharif described the outcome of the joint committee's talks as extremely positive. He said the developed performance of the information media is an example for all other sectors, adding there was agreement to continue meetings among both countries' ministers and officials to serve development projects in both countries.

Al-Sharif on Relations

JN012036 Khartoum SUNA In Arabic 1720 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Khartoum, 1 Dec (SUNA) — Safwat al-Sharif, Egyptian information minister, assistant secretary general of the Egyptian NDP, and member of the NDP Political Bureau, has said that integration means achieving the two countries' national and strategic goals on the land of the Nile Valley without the need to find a banner to consolidate these goals. In an interview with SUNA here today, he called for a serious study of all areas to realize real develoment through the constitutional, executive, and legislative institutions that have been established by the free will of the two peoples.

He also denied reports that there is a chill in relations between Egypt and Sudan and said that the past period has witnessed the arrangement of the Sudanese home under the uprising, adding that the current atmosphere is suitable for a political, economic, and cultural move between the two countries, especially since political systems in both countries are based on a multiplicity of parties — which represents a real relationship and a unity of thought, creates an appropriate climate and basic principles, and removes past sensitivities from when Sudan was under a one-party system, the dissolved Socialist Union.

Safwat al-Sharif also affirmed that the NDP welcomes cooperation and coordination with Sudanese parties to create understanding and joint ideas. He added that his visit, the first by an Egyptian official after the arrangement of the Sudanese home, is viewed as a first step for the two countries to begin cooperation in various field, especially since the visit produced an agreement to develop media systems in the two countries.

Al-Sharif also said information in both countries should concentrate on preserving cultural, humanitarian, and educational principles for the sake of joint development and propsperity, because people cannot safeguard their freedom and democracy in the absence of economic bases. Regarding the need for a continuous flow of information between the two countries, he said he would discuss with the Sudanese information minister the possibility of increasing SUNA's role in Egypt, stressing the Egyptian Government's efforts to send Egyptian papers to Sudan regularly and at reasonable prices and to receive Sudanese newspapers.

At the end of the conversation, Al-Sharif stressed that the Egyptian Government will guarantee the freedom of the press in Egypt and will not interfere in it, review its material, or pressure journalists, adding that Egypt has granted the parties a right to issue their newspapers as they wish.

Sudan's Al-Din Receives Libyan Official

LD011956 Tripoli JANA in English 1750 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Khartoum, al-Kanvan 1, Jamahiriyah News Agency — "Idris al-Banna," [quotation marks as received] the vice president of the head of state Supreme Council of Sudan received yesterday morning the secretary of the Libyan Arab Brotherhood Bureau in Khartoum.

During this meeting, al-Banna confirmed Sudan's keenness to consolidate the develop the existing solid relations between Great Jamahiriyah and Sudan. He pointed out that such keenness comes within the framework of Sudan's declared adherence to consolidating its relations with Great Jamahiryah within the pan-Arab unity context.

The secretary of the Libyan Arab Brotherhood Bureau in Khartoum was received by Dr. ‘Ali Taj al-Din, the member of the head of state Supreme Council of Sudan.

Dr. Taj al-Din hailed during the meeting the pioneering role of the leader of the revolution on the Arab, African and the international levels. He asserted Sudan's solidarity with the Libyan Arab People in confronting imperialist and Zionist conspiracies. He also praised the support the Libyan Arab people offers to the Sudanese people. He indicated that a popular and official Sudanese delegation will visit Great Jamahiriyah to discuss the integration plans of the two regions of Darfur in Sudan and Al-Kufrah in Great Jamahiriyah within the framework of the economic integration between the two sisterly countries.

Envoy on Integration

JN011538 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1443 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Khartoum, 1 Dec (SUNA) — Jum‘ah al-Fazzani, secretary of the Libyan Arab Brotherhood Bureau in Khartoum, has said that the integration procedures between the cities of Al-Kufrah in Libya and Darfur in western Sudan are under way. He pointed out that the Darfur Region's ruler will leave for Libya within the next few days in response to the invitation of the secretary of the Al-Kufrah people's committee.

His excellency hailed the Darfur conference, whose recommendations stressed cohesion between Darfur and Al-Kufrah and urged continued implementation of the integration program between the two areas on popular and official levels. The Libyan ambassador also talked about the agricultural holding company. He said a senior delegation will arrive in Sudan this month to complete the foundational procedures for this holding company after the Council of Ministers and the Constituent Assembly approved its establisment.

The Libyan ambassador also discussed Yasir 'Arafat's statement that Arab countries are ignoring the camps war. He said Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution, appealed to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to intervene to stop the bloodshed to which the Palestinian camps are being subjected. He added Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's initiative is considered a positive stand on the Palestinian struggle in view of Arab silence.

Rebel Plot To Infiltrate Khartoum Reported

NC011810 Paris AFP in English 1754 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Khartoum, Dec 1 (AFP) — The Sudanese authorities have uncovered a plot by southern rebels to infiltrate the capital and "create terror," the twice-weekly opposition newspaper *Alwan* reported Monday.

The newspaper, quoting a "top security report," said that the plot "aims at infiltrating large numbers of military cadres who were trained in Cuba and Ethiopia to create chaos and terrorise the citizens of Khartoum."

According to the report, the paper said, "over 100,000 southerners arrived in Khartoum in the past three months and security authorities believe that (rebel leader) John Garang's movement (Sudanese People's Liberation Movement) is behind that intensified migration."

Several thousand southerners arrived each day, despite an SPLM blockade of land and river transport between north and south, "a clear indication that the rebel movement is assisting the migration," the paper noted.

It said the report warned against what it described as "the terror belt" around Khartoum.

Ethiopian Attacks on Eastern Region Reported

JN021116 Khartoum SUNA in English
1020 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Khartoum, Dec 2 (SUNA) — The Ethiopian warplanes have last Saturday renewed attacks against Eastern Region villages by bombing the eastern village of Mandal, 300 miles from the Ethiopian borders, killing unidentified number of citizens and injuring 50 others, the independent daily *Al-Siyassah* today reported. Quoting a Constituent Assembly (parliament) member the paper said Ethiopian military jets had previously bombed several areas in the same region.

The paper identified the bombed positions as Adari, (Gait Iterira) — all in the Eastern Region where seven people were killed and more than 15 others injured as a result of the Ethiopian air raids.

The Ethiopian aircraft also launched two air raids last Thursday and Monday on the two eastern villages of Marafeet and Barakah, in the Red Sea province, respectively, killing 15 people and injuring 15 others, the paper quoted the parliamentary member as saying.

The air raids were apparently carried against the Eritrean concentrations in the Eastern Region but they were also directed against Sudanese villages to provoke the government, the paper quoted the member as arguing.

The member called on the government of Premier Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi to protect the Eastern region citizens and respond firmly to the Ethiopian aggressions.

SPLA Kill 13 Government Troops in Ambush

EA011849 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English
1300 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] SPLA units of (Koriom) task force intercepted an enemy force near (Luli Brek) last month, killing 13 enemy soldiers and wounding eight more. The enemy troops were advancing to (?Tali Post) through (Thui) when they fell in an ambush and were [words indistinct].

SPLA Inflicts Heavy Casualties on Government

EA011904 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English
1300 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] SPLA forces of Abu Shawk and Sobat battalions engaged an enemy convoy at Al-Abyar near Malakal on 22 November 1986. The enemy was trying to break through to Nasir. The correspondent says that fighting started at 1415 and lasted till the following day when the enemy was forced to break and run to Malakal. Two Magirus trucks and one tank were destroyed and heavy casualties in men (?were sustained).

TUNISIA

Paris Paper on Tunisian Islamic Movement

PM011212 Paris LE MONDE in French 26 Nov 86 p 5

[Jean de la Gueriviere dispatch: "Islam's Apostles"]

[Text] Tunis — In Tunisia, a country of subtlety and compromise, it is sometimes difficult to assess opposition movements. Some are officially recognized, others are illegal, but there are also some which are tolerated, halfway between a clandestine existence and dialogue with the government. For instance, the Islamic Tendency Movement [MTI] has asked to be recognized as a political party three times, but in vain. However, it is sometimes asked to have discussions with the authorities. In

October 1985 its leaders even met with Mr Mzali, who was then prime minister.

Its chairman Rached Ghannouchi regards himself as being "under house arrest" and is not receiving foreigners at present. He is leaving this task to Jebali Hamadi, one of the five Politburo members. In theory the latter has just been sentenced to 7 months' imprisonment but he has appealed and is "still waiting" for the authorities to make a decision on this case.

Jebali Hamadi is a power engineer, after 6 years of scientific studies in France, and he talks more skilfully than most "turbans," as the supporters of a secular system call the "fundamentalists." Despite his calm tone, he delivered an outright condemnation of the regime: "Of course there has been some progress in Tunisia, as there has been elsewhere since independence, for instance in the education sphere. But the overall record is negative. We reject the kind of society proposed by Bourguiba, who has tried to destroy the country's Arab and Islamic component. The law on women, for which Bourguiba is so warmly congratulated for having imposed on us, is a mistake. Just look, the family in Tunisia is breaking up. We are opposed to the provisions of this law, which bans polygamy. We are not in favor of harems, but polygamy as laid down by the Koran, is a solution to specific problems. At least the Koran has the courage to codify certain things, whereas in Europe, men solve the problem by taking mistresses."

Despite this initial statement, our host portrayed himself as a democrat, deploring the fact that the government should play into the hands of the "extremists" by refusing to have more detailed discussions with the MTI. This party has a representative in the Tunisian League for the Defense of Human Rights, which was founded by supporters of the Movement of Social Democrats, the moderate leftwing opposition, but is open to all. The fundamentalists approve of the charter adopted by the league, aside from the section which states that a woman can marry a foreigner of a different religion.

"In France, at the university," Jebali Hamadi recalled, "the Tunisian leftists wanted to massacre us because we carried religious books." However, he said, he taught a lesson to his young student friends who wanted to prevent their rivals from expressing their views. "Even the Destourians have the right to speak out," according to this apostle of Islam, forgetting that his supporters in the universities have beaten up several people.

"The Iranian Vanguard" [subhead]

In the short term, it is likely that if Prime Minister Rachid Sfar encounters violent opposition it will be in the universities where the fundamentalists are determined and organized. Jebali Hamadi has no sympathy for him, but he does not want his predecessor to return: "We talked with Mr Mzali but we had no confidence in him. He was more skillful than the others and wanted to combat the Islamists by moving onto their ground: Arabization, relations with the Near East. Indeed he tried to cut the ground from under our feet. We have not forgotten that the repression began under his administration."

According to the authorities, the MTI is less powerful than it was, not because of repression, but because the course taken by the Iranian revolution has sickened many Tunisians. Jebali Hamadi was clearly uncomfortable when asked to give his view on this subject. "I have never been to Iran, and we lack information on that country. I have heard about violations of freedom. We are in favor of democracy. But we do not systematically condemn Iran, which we regard as being in the vanguard of the fight against imperialism. However, we existed before the Iranian revolution, and we are not a product of it. We are convinced that Iran will not support anybody but the Shi'ites."

The MTI speaks in legalist but rather ambiguous terms. In fact it has to reckon with the excesses of activist groups such as "the Islamic vanguard" which has contacts with Tehran. "The serious thing is that Iran is trying to activate mercenaries," a top official of the Destourian Socialist Party told us. "We have proof that the Iranians are recruiting people from Maghreb circles in Europe to destabilize us." The Pakistanis are apparently also active through small so-called "cultural" groups that advocate "the penetration of society by means of authentic religious practices," such as wearing traditional dress.

The authorities seem to have taken their stand on the infiltration of the universities by the Islamists. There is a strangely similar attitude to be found among ministers and prominent oppositionists who play down the present importance of the fundamentalist movement in the rest of society. But recent events in Algeria clearly show that this movement is deep-rooted and extensive throughout the Maghreb. Although they do not admit it, the authorities are constantly on the alert to prevent the contagion spreading to the army.

The army, which has 45,000 men, including 15,000 conscripts, remains legalist and modern. One of its characteristics is that it is open to women, and a woman even graduated first in her class from the military academy with the rank of sublieutenant in 1984. On three occasions in the recent past — in 1978 during the trade union revolt, in 1980 in Gafsa, and in 1984 during the "bread riots" — the army has restored order and then returned to barracks. The government's fear is that the junior officers and lieutenants will be less disciplined than the colonels and generals when the next alert comes. The Islamists have realized how much they stand to gain from infiltrating the army. When detected they are immediately expelled by a hierarchy that is aware of the fact that the country's future is at stake in such matters.

WESTERN SAHARA

Deputy Foreign Minister Visits SDAR, Congo

LD011122 Tehran IRNA in English 0958 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 1, IRNA — President Abdelaziz of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic, said that it was the Iranian nation's natural right to continue its legitimate defence until the downfall of Iraq's Saddam Husayn who he described as an agent of imperialism in the Middle East.

Speaking in a meeting with an Iranian delegation led by deputy foreign minister for judicial and parliamentary affairs, Mujtaba Mir Mehdi, in Sahara Saturday, the SDAR president expressed appreciation over the Islamic Republic's assistance and support for the republic.

Mir Mehdi briefed the SDAR leader on the victories of the Iranian combatants at the war fronts of the Iraqi imposed war and Iran's political and military status.

Mir Mehdi and his entourage left Tehran for a number of east African countries on Nov. 13.

The deputy foreign minister visited Congo before arriving in Sahara and handed over messages of President 'Ali Khamene'i and Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi to their Congolese counterparts. The delegation also met with Congolese foreign minister.

ETHIOPIA

Decree on Constitution Referendum Issued

EA011245 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1720 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Decree No 305/1986 on establishing a constitution referendum commission issued by the PMAC on 29 November in Addis Ababa]

[Text] Inasmuch as the direct participation of the working people, who are the owners of power in the struggle to establish the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia [PDRE], must be strengthened in various directions; preparation of the draft constitution by the constitution drafting commission is complete following its enrichment by constructive opinions provided through the active participation of the working people; it is essential for it to be approved by referendum in order to confirm the working people's ownership of power; a constitution referendum commission must be established and rules to govern its work decreed to enable the working people to approve the draft constitution with full democratic participation; the following has been decreed in accordance with Decree No 110/1976, Articles 5 and 6 on revising the powers and duties of the PMAC and Council of Ministers:

1. Concise nonmenclature: This decree may be cited as Decree No 305/1986 on establishing a constitution referendum commission.

Part I: Concerning the Referendum Commission

2. Establishment:

a. This decree established and sets forth the objectives, duties and responsibilities of the constitution referendum commission.
b. The commission shall be answerable to the WPE Central Committee.

3. Office of the Commission: The Ethiopian Institute of Nationalities studies shall house the office of the commission.

4. Objectives of the commission: The Objectives of the commission shall be to submit to a referendum the draft constitution by which the PDRE shall be established and governed and to conduct the voting.

5. The commission's duties and responsibilities: The Commission shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

a. To distribute and explain the draft constitution to the people;
b. To cause the people to vote on the draft constitution;
c. To formulate and apply agitprop strategy;
d. To establish polling stations;
e. To prepare and distribute to the polling stations the documents and materials needed for voting;
f. To issue necessary explanations and decisions on questions raised on the referendum;
g. To compile and submit to the WPE Central Committee the vote counting results sent in by coordinating committees;
h. To perform any other tasks essential to the proper implementation of the decree;
i. To issue directives and form various committees germane to the implementation of the decree; and
j. To submit and implementation report to the WPE Central Committee.

6. Structure of the commission: The commission shall have:

a. a congress;
b. an executive committee;
c. regional, provincial and district referendum coordinating committees;
d. referendum polling stations coordinating committees; and
e. revolutionary army referendum coordinating committees.

7. Members of the congress:

a. The congress shall comprise members: 1) from the WPE; 2) relevant government departments; 3) mass organizations; 4) individuals noted for their professional and public services appointed by the head of state; and
b. The congress shall have one chairman, one vice chairman and one secretary.

8. Duties and responsibilities of the congress: The duties and responsibilities of the congress shall be those as set out in this decree.

9. Meetings of the congress:

a. The congress shall meet at any time on the summons of the chairman or, in his absence, of the vice chairman;
b. The presence of more than half the members of the congress shall constitute a quorum;
c. Decisions of the congress shall be taken by majority vote; and
d. In the event of the vote of the congress being divided equally, the chairman shall have the casting vote.

10. Members of the Executive Committee:

a. The members of the commission's executive committee shall be elected from among the members of the congress; and
b. The members of the committee shall include the chairman, vice chairman and secretary of the congress.

11. Duties and responsibilities of the Executive Committee: The commission's Executive Committee shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

a. to implement resolutions adopted by the congress on the procedures governing the referendum;
b. to coordinate and control the work of the office and various committees of the commission;
c. to ensure wide distribution of the draft constitution;
d. to supervise the holding of the referendum;
e. to explain through the various mass media the procedures governing the referendum;
f. to report periodically to the congress on implementation; and
g. to perform any other tasks laid down by the congress.

12. Meetings of the Executive Committee:

a. The executive committee shall meet at any time upon the summons of the chairman or, in his absence, of the vice chairman;
b. The presence of more than half members of the committee shall constitute a quorum;
c. Decisions of the committee shall be taken by majority vote; and
d. In the event of the vote of the committees being divided equally, the chairman shall have the casting vote.

13. Duties and responsibilities of the chairman of the congress: The chairman of the congress shall:

a. chair meetings of the congress and executive committee; and
b. control the work of the secretary and committees of the congress.

14. Duties and responsibilities of the vice chairman of the congress: The vice chairman of the congress shall:

a. chair meetings of the congress and Executive Committee and perform the other duties of the chairman in the latter's absence; and
b. perform any other tasks assigned him by the congress and the executive committee.

15. Duties and responsibilities of the secretary of the congress: The secretary of the congress shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

a. to ensure that the minutes of congress and Executive Committee meetings are recorded;
b. to direct the office of the commission and coordinate the work of the various committees;
c. to represent the commission in all communications with other bodies as directed by the chairmen of the congress;
d. to ensure wide distribution of the draft constitution:
e. to ensure distribution to polling stations of documents and materials needed for voting;
f. to report to the Executive Committee on the work and accounts of the commissions office; and
g. to perform any other relevant tasks.

16. Members of the referendum coordinating committees: The members of the regional, provincial, district, polling station and revolutionary army referendum coordinating committees shall be appointed by the congress.

17. Duties and responsibilities of the regional referendum coordinating committee: The regional referendum coordinating committee shall at the direction of the Executive Committee:

a. distribute to the provincial referendum coordinating committees documents and materials relevant to the referendum on the draft constitution;
b. formulate a strategy to enable the people of the region to participate in the referendum and direct the provincial referendum coordinating committees;
c. ensure the completion of all necessary preparations for holding the referendum in the region;
d. make decisions on issues addressed to it by provincial referendum coordinating committees;
e. compile and forward to the commissions office the polling results submitted by provincial referendum coordinating committees;
f. Supervise the proper functioning of the lower referendum coordinating committees;
g. report to the executive committee on implementation; and
h. perform any other tasks assigned to it by the commission's Executive Committee.

18. Duties and responsibilities of the provincial referendum coordinating committee: The provincial referendum coordinating committee shall at the direction of the regional referendum coordinating committee:

a. distribute to the district referendum coordinating committees documents and materials relevant to the referendum on the draft constitution;
b. formulate a strategy to enable the people of the province to participate in the referendum and direct the district referendum coordinating committees;
c. ensure the completion of all necessary preparations for holding the referendum in the province;
d. approve and forward to the regional coordinating committee the lists of polling stations submitted by the district referendum coordinating committees;
e. compile and forward to the regional referendum coordinating committee the polling results submitted by district referendum coordinating committees;
f. make decisions issues addressed to it by district referendum coordinating committees;
g. supervise the proper functioning of the district referendum coordinating committees;
h. report to the regional referendum coordinating committee on implementation; and
i. perform any other tasks assigned to it by the regional referendum coordinating committee.

19. Duties and responsibilities of the district referendum coordinating committee: The district referendum coordinating committee shall at the direction of the provincial referendum coordinating committee:

a. distribute to the polling station referendum coordinating committees documents and materials relevant to the referendum on the draft constitution;
b. establish polling stations in the area;
c. direct the referendum coordinating committees to be established at polling stations;
d. ensure the completion of all necessary preparations for voting in the referendum at the polling stations;
3. compile and forward to the provincial referendum coordinating committee the voting results submitted to polling stations;
f. make decisions on issues addressed to it by polling stations;
g. report to the provincial referendum coordinating committee on implementation; and
h. perform any other tasks assigned to it by the provincial referendum coordinating committees.

20. Duties and responsibilities of the polling station referendum coordinating committee: Polling station referendum coordinating committees shall at the direction of the district referendum coordinating committee:

a. ensure the completion of all necessary preparations for voting in the referendum;
b. receive and properly use documents and materials sent by the district referendum coordinating committee;
c. register voters;
d. prominently display the voters list for perusal by the public;
e. conduct polling on the draft constitution, count the votes and compile and submit the results to the district referendum coordinating committee;
f. examine and make decisions on accusations and complaints regarding the implementation of the referendum;
g. report to the district referendum coordinating committee on implementation; and
h. perform any other tasks assigned to it by the district referendum coordinating committee.

21. Revolutionary Armed Forces referendum coordinating committee: The level at which Revolutionary Armed Forces referendum coordinating committees will be established and their duties and responsibilities shall be determined by a directive to be issued by the congress.

Part II: On Voting, Polling Stations and Registration

22. Voting guidelines:

a. Every Ethiopian aged 18 years is entitled to vote. Mentally defective persons or those deprived by law of the right to elect or be elected may not vote;
b. Every voter shall have only one vote, and every vote is of equal value;
c. Voting shall be direct, in person and only once; and
d. The voting shall be by secret ballot.

23. Polling station:

a. Zonal urban dwellers' associations and zonal peasants' associations shall serve as polling stations;
b. If the population of a zone is too great for satisfactory voting the polling station referendum coordinating committee may, subject to being granted permission from a higher body, establish additional polling stations; and
c. The commission shall announce details of polling stations to the public.

24. Registration of voters:

a. Every Ethiopian fulfilling the stipulations of Article 22, Paragraph A of this decree may register at the polling station in his area of residence;
b. A voter may register once only and shall receive evidence of having done so; and
c. Times of registration shall be determined by a directive to be issued by the commission.

25. Exigencies:

a. A voter who is absent for good reason from his residential address during the registration period may report to the polling station in the area where he happens to be and his name shall be registered in a special file and he shall be given evidence of registration; and
b. If a voter registered at a particular polling station changes his residential address or is elsewhere during the voting period his name shall be registered in a special file when he reports with evidence of registration at another polling station.

26. File open to the public: The voters' file shall be open to the public in the station for 3 days on the day after registration ends.

27. Objections:

a. Anyone wishing to object to the contents of the voters' file which is open to public may submit his objection and the reasons for it in writing to the polling station referendum coordinating committee within 5 days from the day the file was opened to the public;
b. The committee shall make a decision within a period not exceeding 3 days; and
c. In the event of the objector being dissatisfied with the decision he may appeal to the district referendum coordinating committee within 5 days from the day the decision was made. Decisions made by the district referendum coordinating committee shall be final.

Part III: On Approval of the Draft Constitution by Referendum

28. Approval of the draft constitution:

a. The draft constitution shall be submitted to a referendum by the commission;
b. The draft constitution shall be approved by referendum according to the procedures laid down in this decree; and
c. The people shall vote either to accept or not to accept the draft constitution in general.

29. Voting period: The date for voting on the draft constitution shall be announced by the commission.

30. Voting:

a. Any registered voter may vote where he registered or at a polling station in the area to which he moved in line with Article 25, Paragraph B, by reporting with evidence of registration;
b. Voting by any person shall be registered in the file;
c. Every person shall secretly mark a special place indicated on the ballot with which he will be provided for voting, thus expressing whether he accepts the draft constitution;
d. Voting shall take place in the presence of the polling station referendum coordinating committee members, representatives of mass organizations and not more than five observers who are well known in the area; and

e. Before voting the box shall be inspected and subsequently locked in the presence of observers.

31. Vote counting:

a. Counting shall start as soon as voting ends, but if it is impossible to complete the counting, the ballot box shall be sealed by polling station referendum coordinating committee members in the presence of observers and placed under guard;
b. When the situation permits, the boxes shall be inspected in the presence of observers and opened after ascertaining that the seal has not been tampered with. The ballots shall then be counted by the referendum coordinating committee members of the respective possing stations;
c. [passage indistinct]

d. The referendum coordinating committee shall immediately send the [words indistinct] to its senior referendum coordinating committee; and
e. Under this decree the referendum coordinating committees at all levels shall compile and forward to the higher bodies the ballot results they receive from the referendum coordinating committees under them.

32. On ascertaining the [word indistinct] legality of voting and forwarding to a higher authority:

a. Directly it receives the ballot results the commission shall ascertain that the voting has been correctly conducted in accordance with this decree;
b. The commission shall nullify all results of voting conducted in contravention of this decree; and
c. The commission shall compile the results of the voting and submit the final report to the WPE Central Committee.

33. On approving the draft constitution:

a. The constitution shall be deemed to have been approved subject to more than 50 percent of the voters voting in favor; and
b. The commission shall ensure that the results of the referendum are made public.

Part IV: Sundry Regulations

34. Obligation to cooperate: All government organizations, public and private organizations and individuals are obliged to cooperate in the implementation of this decree.

35. Penalties:

a. Any individual: 1) who in any way disrupts the process of ablloting shall be punished by up to 3 years' imprisonment; 2) who obstructs any Ethiopian in exercising his right to vote on the constitution shall be punished by up to 5 years' imprisonment;
b. Acts of conspiracy: 1) acts of disruption shall be punishable by up to 5 years' hard labor; 2) acts of obstruction shall be punishable by up to 7 years' hard labor;
c. Acts of coercion: 1) acts of disruption shall be punishable by up to 7 years' hard labor; 2) acts of obstruction shall be punishable by up to 10 years' hard labor; and
d. If loss of human life is incurred during the act of disruption or obstruction the punishment may be extended to include the death penalty.

36. Date of effectiveness of the decree: This decree shall be effective from the day of its publication in the official gazette. [Signed] PMAC, Addis Ababa, 29 November 1986

PMAC Statement on Referendum

EA011340 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic
1710 GMT 29 Nov 86

[PMAC statement: "The People Themselves Constitute the Guarantee for Ensuring the Direct Assumption of Power by the People"; date and place of issue not given]

[Text] The process of establishing a genuinely just, equal and mutually prosperous society is the result of the sum total of various historical phenomena and, inasmuch as all victories in the process of struggle contribute toward the developmental steps of society, these victories are basically historic. Then there are discoveries and deeds which are accorded special consideration in terms of their historical value in the creation of secure springboards to effect subsequent victories and the advancement of the struggle. Our revolution, which has marched victoriously to reach this stage today, cannot be viewed outside the terms of this axiom.

Many historic deeds have been done since objective action was undertaken to realize the honorable aspiration which came into being on the eve of the revolution, of enabling the working people of Ethiopia to assume the ownership of government power. Thus, once again, the necessary preparations are being made today to perform a task which will be always be remembered as a special one in the history of our country and revolution.

The constitution of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia [PDRE] — drafted with the joint participation of the working people and the constitutional drafting committee, amended and enriched by national opinion — will soon be submitted to a referendum, as planned. This system of decisionmaking is unique among all the ways by which the broad masses manifest themselves as the sole owners and source of power. It is a notable historical manifestation to which Ethiopians should pay particular attention. It can only evoke the greatest respect and happiness among the people who had no basic rights other than those enshrined in so-called statutes and who were alien to issues concerning their own country, and among those compatriots who struggled to bring it about.

It is clear that the working people have succeeded in assuming direct ownership of government power and control over the fruits of their labor and destiny by virtue of their crucial struggle in the past 12 years. We cannot believe that our revolution would have victoriously reached its present stage had it not been for the selfless participation and unfaltering support of the people. The working people have been able to reach this present stage at which they are preparing for additional victories by coordinating their efforts, utilizing the forums for the creation of suitable conditions and the tools of struggle and by building on earlier victories.

Government power is the basic quest of all revolutionary movements. The quest is not only confined to the assumption of power but its use as a tool to create lasting benefits. The assumption of government power became the aspiration of the working people of Ethiopia when the mass movement took place in February

1975. Eradication of the feudal political system became a prime duty toward ensuring the practical realization of this basic aspiration.

The steps taken in all spheres and directions since the establishment of the PMAC can be viewed only in the light of action to prepare the people, directly or indirectly, for assuming the direct ownership of power, which they are very close to today. The preparations made to establish the PDRE should accordingly be seen in this light. The revolutionary steps taken in various spheres have made possible the laying of broad, deep, and sound foundations for the prevalence and development of direct people's power. Those steps reflected the changes affecting the material life of our society. The use of these changes as incentives for further victories and the attendant results have won high regard. In general it is not hard to understand that the preparations for the establishment of the PDRE or the practical [words indistinct] based on this are built on our revolution's previous victories. [passage indistinct]

The PDRE is not only the direct manifestation of the assumption of direct government power by the workers but a government built on the results of the people's struggle and established with the democratic participation of the people. There can thus be no greater guarantee for the existence and strength of this government than the comprehensive participation of the working people and their support founded in faith and awareness.

It is noteworthy that the popular participation manifested during the preparation of the draft constitution reflected the consolidation of exemplary deeds and the level of development in the political culture of the working people. In addition to drafting through their representatives the basic statutes which will guide Ethiopia in the future, the working people have enriched it with incomparable revolutionary fervor and active participation, and during their deliberations on the draft constitution they acquired knowledge that will be useful in preparing for the future tasks awaiting in our ongoing work to build a new system. Accordingly, public discussion has not only improved the quality of the content of the draft constitution but has also guaranteed that the conditions for its implementation have been fulfilled.

Events have clearly proved that the state power of the PDRE is based on the desire and support of the people. Nevertheless, in order to lend this fact legal expression and the PDRE a legal framework, the constitution will be approved by referendum. By this historic act the people of Ethiopia will assert their supremacy and control over their destiny. Approval of the constitution by referendum will confirm that the people constitute the foundations of the PDRE's state power. It will also affirm the legality of the constitution and of the various laws based on it.

The act of approving the draft constitution by referendum is the supreme expression of the working people's democratic participation and affirmation of the fact that they are the exclusive sources and owners of power. The working people are accordingly expected to participate decisively toward rendering the preparations for and process of the referendum successful. They are expected to assert themselves as the main arbiters in the struggle to validate this document, which faithfully reflects their basic interests and aspirations and to endow it with legal power by endorsing it.

The power of a people's government is guaranteed only by genuine popular participation and support. It is a fact that in order to endow the constitution with legal power, all of us citizens must resolve to exercise our rights in the spirit of ownership witnessed during the struggle to lay a material and spiritual foundation on which to establish a government representative of the interests of the working people.

We shall establish the PDRE.

Mengistu, GDR Official Discuss Agriculture

EA012129 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] The WPE's emphasis on accelerating revolutionary Ethiopia's development is admirable, in particular the strategy it has formulated to modernize the agricultural sector to develop this main pillar of the country's economy. This was stated this morning by (Helmut Mehlmann), member of the SED Central Committee and head of the SED's Agriculture Research Department, when he met with Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the WPE Central Committee, PMAC chairman, and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces.

Comrade (Mehlmann) praised the tasks being implemented in the agricultural sector, which he viewed during his recent tour of rural areas. He said he had been able to see for himself that the WPE is efficiently implementing these tasks. Comrade (Mehlmann) affirmed that the sisterly GDR and the SED will further strengthen their existing solidarity with the WPE and with the revolutionary government.

In his speech, our comrade revolutionary leader pointed out that the exchange of experiences have made a major contribution to the success of our country's ongoing comprehensive development efforts. He said it is revolutionary Ethiopia's desire that exchanges of work experience and interparty relations with friendly countries like the GDR should be further developed. The comrade secretary general affirmed that revolutionary Ethiopia is satisfied with the initiation of construction projects between the two sisterly countries and that it will contribute toward their success.

CAR

Paris Radio Interviews President Kolingba

LD011145 Paris International Service in French 1315 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Interview with President Andre-Dieudonne Kolingba by correspondent Christophe Boibouvier in Bangui; from the "Hebdo" program; date not given — recorded]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Boibouvier] You said in one of your speeches that the people have to be united, and that was why you proposed the constitution of the Central African Democratic Rally. Why have you dismissed pluralism?

[Kolingba] Pluralism? Because the Central African people themselves voted against division because pluralism is a synonym for ethnism here in the CAR. It is a synonym of division, and that is why the Central African people have freely dismissed pluralism.

[Boibouvier] You said in your speech on Saturday morning that reminiscences of the past had not troubled the Central African people. We saw in that, of course, an allusion to the trial of Jean-Bedel Bokassa. What, in your view, does Jean-Bedel Bokassa represent today in the CAR?

[Kolingba] You are here in Central Africa, in Bangui, to be more precise. You have seen for yourself the atmosphere. Do you think Bokassa really represents anything here, even with his presence here in [word indistinct] where we launched the referendum campaign? This has not disrupted this campaign at all, and we are continuing in the same spirit. Have you noticed anything with the presence of Bokassa here? No, the Bokassa affair still remains a mystery.

[boibouvier] On this very point, how do you explain the return of a man who risks his life?

[Kolingba] I think it is up to Bokassa himself to answer that question. As for me, I really cannot explain it. It is a continuing mystery.

[Boibouvier] Do you not think that certain people have thought of the possibility of destabilizing the country and thus (?supported) Jean-Bedel Bokassa's return?

[kolingba] I will reserve judgement on that question.

[Boibouvier] In his message to the public, Jean-Bedel Bokassa stated that he supported your action. Do you believe he is sincere?

[Kolingba] He spoke, you heard him. But as for believing whether or not he is sincere, I cannot say. He said that; he has spoken; the words came out of his mouth, but as for going deeper and finding out whether he is sincere in what he said — you will have to ask him that question.

PRC'S Zhang Jingfu Arrives for Official Visit

AB011635 Paris AFP in English 1552 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Bangui, Dec 1 (AFP) — China's vice-premier in charge of economic affairs, Zhang Jingfu, arrivedd here Monday for a four-day visit to the Central African Republic, it was announced here.

Mr Zhang is due to meet Tuesday with President Andre Kolingba.

The Chinese official, travelling at the head of a 13-member delegation, earlier visited Zaire and Cameroon and will return to Beijing Thursday.

AFP: Former Official, Other Detainees Amnestied

AB011624 Paris AFP in French 1428 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Bangui, 1 Dec (AFP) — Sixty-four detainees will be granted amnesty decided by CAR President General Andre Kolingba on the occasion of his swearing-in as president, an official decree published in Bangui on Monday pointed out.

Among those to benefit from the amnesty, whom official sources have described as "political prisoners," is Francois Gueret, a former CAR high commissioner in charge of developing state-owned mixed companies. Mr Gueret, who was arrested in 1984, was sentenced to 10 years in jail by a special tribunal. Mr Gueret's jailing followed the publication of a letter he sent to a "high French official" in which he questioned the regime of President Kolingba and stated that he was "the only person capable of defending France's interests in the CAR," it is recalled.

Mr Gueret had earlier been minister of justice under President David Dacko and was a leader of the Movement for Democracy and Independence (MDI).

An unspecified number of common law detainees will also benefit from the presidential amnesty, the official decree pointed out.

CHAD

Habre on Libyan Army Reinforcement in North

AB301828 Paris AFP in French 1740 GMT 29 Nov 86

[By Bernard Apfeldorfer]

[Excerpts] Ndjamena, 30 Nov [date as received] (AFP) — The Libyan Army is being reinfeinforcforced north of the 16th Parallel, "at a particularly accelerated pace at Fada (Ennedi, northeastern Chad), Ogoue, and Ouadi-Doum (150 km northeast of Faya-Largeau) where it has virtually doubled its strength in less than 2 months," Chadian President Hissein Habre said in an interview granted in Ndjamena to AFP and the French Television Network TF1.

This reinforcement of the Libyan Army bolsters the Chadian president's fears at seeing Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi who, according to Mr Habre, is faced with internal problems, "push ahead" rather than "withdraw." [passage omitted]

Mr Habre also expressed his "deep regret" that Benin should continue to "serve as a transit base for mercenaries of all nationalities for the Islamic Legion" created by Libya. Chadian envoys have been sent to Beninese President Mathieu Kerekou to protest, he pointed out. "Each time we get the opportunity, we will continue to protest against these anti-Chadian and anti-African activities," Mr Habre added.

The Chadian president confirmed the arrival of the additional aid requested from France, stressing that his forces lacked sophisticated antitank and antiaircraft materials. The United States had been approached to procure these materials, "but up until now the Americans have been hesitating; I hope to convince them," Mr Habre said.

Concerning the French air defense outfit "Epervier," which had to be reduced for technical reasons, Mr Habre said it should "regain its essential components." "If we have to undertake a military action beyond the 16th Parallel (which separates the opposing forces), we will take all the necessary risks," Mr Habre continued, excluding this time, however, the possibility of French air defense support, "because such a support that we demand has always been refused us." [passage omitted]

During the interview, the Chadian president reaffirmed that "the return of all the sons of Chad" who are in the opposition constituted one of Ndjamena's major priorities. He pointed out that Acheikh Ibn Oumar, leader of the Revolutionary Democratic Council (CDR), was, in spite of his "more or less patriotic rhetoric," which is meant for the outside world, "really in the hands of Al-Qadhdhafi."

Finally, Hissein Habre expressed the "sincere wish" that French President Francois Mitterrand and Prime Minister Jacques Chirac would come to Chad.

CONGO

New GUNT Head To Meet President Sassou-Nguesso

AB011646 Paris AFP in English 1552 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Brazzaville, Dec 1 (AFP) — The newly chosen leader of the main Chadian rebel movement, Achiekh Ibn Oumar, has arrived in Congo and was expected to meet with President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, who is current head of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), informed sources said here Monday.

The sources said Mr Oumar, named to head the rebel Transitional Government of National Union (GUNT) following the ouster and arrest last October in Libya of the movement's former leader, Goukouni Oueddei, had arrived here over the weekend with several other GUNT officials. They said the GUNT delegation was expected to seek Colonel Sassou-Nguesso's support for the organization of a reconciliation conference with other Chadian factions and the government of President Hissein Habre.

Foreign Minister Dropped From PCT Politburo

AB011745 Paris AFP in English 1707 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Brazzaville, Dec 1 (AFP) — Congolese Foreign Minister Antoine Ndinga-Oba has been dropped from the Politburo of the ruling Congolese Labor Party [PCT], it was announced here.

Also dropped from the Politburo during a party Central Committee meeting which ended Sunday was former Foreign Minister Pierre Nze, who has been considered one of the ruling party's leading theoreticians.

The meeting decided to reduce membership in the Politburo from 13 to 10 members and cut the Central Committee's Secretariat, the party's top executive body, back from 10 to eight members, officials said.

Analysts here said the changes within the workers party could be followed soon by a government reshuffle.

RWANDA

Ukrainian Communications Minister Visits

EA020438 Kigali Domestic Service in French 1600 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Ukrainian Minister of Communications Comrade Vladimir Delikatnyy, who is in our country for Soviet Culture Week at the head of an important delegation, this morning held talks with Militant Andre Ntagerura, Rwandan minister of transport and communications. The two stressed strengthening bilateral relations.

ZAIRE

President Mobutu in Spain for Official Visit

For reportage on President Mobutu Sese Seko's 2-day official visit to Spain, including his meetings with Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez and King Juan Carlos, see the 2 December issue of the Western Europe *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

BURKINA FASO

Sankara Receives Malian Defense Minister

AB292117 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] The Burkinabe president received late this morning Malian Defense Minister General Sekou Ly, who arrived here yesterday for a visit. The Malian minister was introduced to Captain Thomas Sankara by Popular Defense Minister Comrade Jean-Baptiste Bouakry Lingani. At the end of the audience, Sekou Ly spoke to the press:

[Begin Ly recording] I would first of all like to thank you for the the opportunity you have given me to express my sincere gratitude to the president of Burkina Faso, who kindly received me and my delegation and who for 1 and 1/2 hours and in an atmosphere of extreme simplicity, friendship, and fraternity gave us the opportunity to examine all issues that could bring together the Malian and Burkinabe armies, as well as our two peoples. Our meeting centered mainly on these issues, which to us were very important, because we are here at the invitation of Burkina Faso conveyed through our friend, Minister Jean-Baptiste Lingani. We have had the opportunity to speak about this on your television, but this morning we had to deliver our message to the president of Burkina Faso, which we have just done. I must say we discussed important issues relating to our future cooperation. Not only did we review our past relations, but we also examined the present to make a profitable projection for our peoples and our armies for the future.

If we made mistakes in the past, there is no question of repeating these mistakes. We must strive to make the future bright for our peoples, so hand in hand forever as brothers and relatives we will work toward our development. [end recording]

Lingani Meets Malian Minister

AB301546 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
0700 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] A gala party was hosted last night in honor of the Malian delegation now on a friendly and brotherly visit to our country. The pleasant occasion was attended by the CNR chairman and members of the revolutionary government. Outlining the significance of the meeting, Popular Defense Minister Comrade Jean-Baptiste Boukary Lingani said it was important for the future of the relations between the Malian and the Burkinabe peoples. It is a meeting of two armies that clashed in the past and that are now getting to know each other and fostering brotherly relations. Comrade Lingani stressed the need for the Malian and Burkinabe authorities to hold frequent consultations to avoid falling in the traps of imperialism. Let us listen to Comrade Lingani:

[Begin Lingani recording] This meeting is indicative of the political maturity of our peoples and their leaders. It is also the manifestation of our heads of state's political will and their ability to overcome occasional differences and work toward a brighter future for the sons and daughters of our two countries. It is the materialization of our determination to show the international community at large that we are sincerely willing to establish genuine and lasting peace between our two peoples and contribute to peace in the subregion. Our move and our behavior will undoubtedly disturb our common enemies. This is because our move runs counter the (?futile) dream of the vampires and assassins of our peoples, who hope to see us tear one another to pieces, which would provide them with an opportunity to boost their war industries.

Through me, all the people's defense forces, along with the Burkinabe people, reiterate their sincere desire to work toward peace. On behalf of the CNR chairman and president of Burkina Faso and head of government, I would like to serve as spokesman and ask you to convey our very brotherly greetings to the brotherly people of Mali, their Army, and its supreme commander, General Moussa Traore. [end recording]

Malian Defense Minister General Sekou Ly recalled that the plagues Malians and Burkinabe must fight are hunger, misery, diseases, and desert encroachment; in a nutshell, all the attendant problems of underdevelopment. Gen Sekou Ly, whom we are now listening to, also pledged the Malian people's sincere friendship toward the Burkinabe people:

[Begin Ly recording] We sincerely thank the Burkinabe people. As the minister of defense said, they are long-standing friends of the Malian people. They shall always remain our brothers. Here, we are like brothers and sisters, fathers and sons, husbands and wives. This is true when we are in Burkina and when we are in Mali. History commands coexistence; our geography commands that we live as a community. Our general situation with the interdependence of our populations is an established fact that we must jointly strengthen to build a strong Burkinabe and Malian nation tomorrow.

We have the strength to achieve this because we have the courage. We have the strength to achieve this because our peoples want us to. We have no alternative. We can no longer afford errors or mistakes similar to those we made in the past. As an African saying goes, the tongue and the teeth are always together; and yet, incidents will occur between them even though they constantly live together with very close bonds. But when an incident occurs, it will be forgotten immediately and the wound on the tongue heals rapidly; the teeth will caress the wound so it will heal rapidly.

Comrades of Burkina Faso, the message that I bring to your people is the message from the Malian people to their brothers and friends; not to a neighbor but to a brother and to a friend, a father, a mother, and their children. This is to say that we are now bound to head toward only one direction; not in the direction of a reconciliation — which has already been made — but in the direction of a total union; a union to build our nations; a union that will enable us to tell Africa's enemies: You have failed, but we have succeeded in working together to build a strong and prosperous African nation. [end recording]

Malian Minister Departs

AB301610 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
1300 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Malian Defense Minister General Sekou Ly, who arrived in Ouagadougou Friday at the head of a high-level delegation, left our capital this morning for Bamako. Speaking to Rene Ouedraogo of the national television, the Malian defense minister expressed satisfaction with his stay in our country:

[Begin Ly recording] I would first of all like to express my sincere gratitude to the Burkinabe people and their president, as well as to my brother and friend, Defense Minister Major Jean-Baptiste Lingani, for the very friendly and fraternal reception, which my delegation and myself highly appreciate, a reception that is typically African. You know, when we arrived here, we knew we would meet brothers and friends, and we leave here very much reassured in this belief, for I have told the press on several occasions that we have a duty to fulfill to our people; that is, we must forget the past and look closely at the present to make projections for a brighter future for our peoples.

We leave here very much reassured by the frankness in the friendship shown us, the frankness in the actions taken to promote a true rapprochement between our peoples so tomorrow, when God gives us bright sunshine, when rain falls in our countries so we have adequate rainfall, and when frogs and crickets combine their croaks and chirps to create a symphony, our populations, united into one people, can heartily sing in unison while harvesting their crops [words indistinct] together.

I have the feeling that we have certainly embarked on the path towards a real cooperation among our peoples. We are very satisfied with this visit, and I must assure you that we are ready to repeat it. We must begin to meet regularly. It helps to smooth things out. [end recording]

MALI

Algeria's Ibrahimi Arrives, Meets President

LD012233 Algiers Domestic Service in French
1800 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Taleb Ibrahimi arrived in Bamako this morning to chair the sixth session of the Algerian-Malian joint cooperation commission. Shortly before the opening of the commission's work, the head of Algerian diplomacy met with President Moussa Traore, to whom he conveyed a message from President Chadli Bendjedid.

During the discussion, they reviewed Algerian-Malian relations and the situation in Africa, in the Mediterranean, and in the Arab world.

NIGERIA

ANC President Tambo Arrives for Official Visit

AB011612 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] The president of the African National Congress of South Africa, Mr Oliver Tambo, is in Lagos on an official visit to Nigeria. A statement issued today by the National Committee Against Apartheid, NACAAP, said Mr Tambo will address a news conference tomorrow at 1000 in the morning. The venue of the conference is the boardroom of NACAAP, Ikoyi.

SIERRA LEONE

BBC: President Momoh Cancels Visit to Iran

AB301120 London BBC World Service in English
0630 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] President Joseph Momoh of Sierra Leone is reported to have canceled at short notice an official visit to Iran. No reason has been given for the cancellation of the visit, which was due to have started later today.

President Delivers Speech on 1st Anniversary

AB290820 London BBC World Service in English
1709 GMT 28 Nov 86

["Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Today is the 1st anniversary of Major General Momoh's coming to power in Sierra Leone. He has given a speech, and while he has been pretty firm in his policies in the past year, it looks as though he is going to be even tougher in the next. From Freetown, Caiio Kamara cabled this report:

[Kamara report read by studio announcer] In his speech at an officers' mess luncheon at which President Momoh was given the unstinted loyalty and devotion to duty of the Armed Forces, the president declared: I know the country and its people are not in a patient mood. Life is not easy. We cannot forever keep asking the people to be patient. I have therefore tried, he went on, to see my 1st year in office as a period of active observation. He added that he had not merely limited himself to observing, learning, seeing, and hearing, but that he had taken a number of actions whose aims were to lay the necessary foundation for a future course of action. He did not spell out what action he had in mind, in which case his speech was below the expectations of Sierra Leoneans who had looked forward to the day as the date when the president can promise a brand new style of government. But the president made another promise that all the activities he had been involved in during the past year provided him with a sum total of experience with which he now intends to direct his administration with greater firmness and boldness in order to retain the goals that he had set himself and for the country.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Reviews People's Assembly Session

MB011830 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 1 dec 86

[Speech by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos at the opening of a special session of the People's Assembly in Luanda on 1 December — recorded]

[Text] Comrade deputies, the current session of the People's Assembly marks the end of the first legislative session in the People's Republic of Angola. In this session we will review the Assembly's activities in the 6 years since the creation of the organs of state power at central and local levels. To achieve the best results, we will base our analysis and discussion on the report to be presented by the first secretary of the People's Assembly, the text of which has already been distributed. We must examine our successes, failures, and shortcomings in a spirit of self-criticism. We must point the way to overcome those deficiences and strengthen the existing organs of people's power. We all understand the supreme importance of the organs of people's power in the attainment of the aspirations of the working masses and the need to make those organs more efficient and dynamic during the next legislative session so that the People's Assembly and the provincial people's assemblies will fulfill their objectives and tasks.

The complex social and political conditions existing at the time of the creation of the organs of people's power in Angola did not allow, until now, the normal functioning of these organs at municipality and commune levels. However, limitations imposed by permanent aggression and destabilization by the South African racists and its allies did not prevent our party and people from carrying out, in a democratic manner, the process of the renewal of mandates for the organs of people's power. This process has already entered its final phase with the forthcoming provincial electoral conferences. This constitutes a heavy defeat for our enemies who are making every effort possible to throttle our struggle.

The democratic aspect of this process was illustrated by the participation of party grass-roots organizations, trade unions, mass and social organizations, and workers organizations. Moreover, Angolan citizens wrote to give their opinions on the proposed candidates whose biographies and photographs were and still are posted in public places. The results of this democratic process also reflected a rejection by the workers of some candidates whose moral and social behavior was incompatible with the demands of the post of deputy. This democratic process also led to a nonrenewal of mandates for a large number of deputies in the People's Assembly and in the provincial people's assemblies, who in one way or another did not satisfactorily execute their duties during the term of their mandates.

In our analysis we will find organizational and functional faults in the organs of people's power, and, in particular, in the People's Assembly. In some cases, despite the existence of legal provisions defining its constitutional powers, these were not used. In other instances, constitutional powers were used deficiently. I am referring specifically to the functioning of several working committees and its links with the permanent commission and the support given to the provincial people's assemblies in the rendering of accounts of deputies and the People's central administrative organs. The irregular functioning of the working committees and their weak links with the permanent commission and the secretary of the People's Assembly has reflected nagatively in the execution of important decisions of these organs of the people's power. The working committees are the cells that feed the People's Assembly so they may function effectively as the supreme organ of the state power which oversees the organization and control of all state activity in our ocuntry. It is urgent that in the next legislative session we approve the adequate regulations and procedures to make the central administrative state organs grow periodically and in tandem with the People's Assembly.

These central administrative state organs must also use party cadres and structures in their relationship with the working committees of the People's Assembly. I appeal to the deputies to use these linking mechanisms in cooperation with the People's Assembly secretary and the secretariat of the Council of Ministers. At the same time, we want to improve existing mechanisms for deputies who after, visiting their constituencies, must account for their work, thus ensuring better coordination with the respective state organs, which should participate in the solution of local problems.

I believe that if at the central and local level we strengthen these links and execute our plans according to the national state plan guidelines we shall be able to overcome the difficulties currently limiting our capacity to address local issues. In most cases, the solution to local issues, because of its their particular nature, is left entirely to local organs. There are and there will not be any provisions in the state plan for these problems which only need dynamism and responsibility from local organs and authorities. In this context it is important that in the next legislative session we schedule seminars in cooperation with the national institute of state organization and administration for deputies of the People's Assembly and of provincial people's assemblies to help deputies of these state organs better understand their role. It will also enable central organs and the provincial people's assemblies to achieve a new dynamism in the search of solutions for local issues. This task is complex but could be executed step by step.

The clear definition of the task of the local and central organs will make people accountable, will increase the functioning capacity of these organs, and will mobilize and organize the technical, material, and administrative manpower needed for the most urgent tasks of the local organs.

Comrade deputies: During the current legislative session, we took important steps to inform other parliamentary groups about problems in our region as well as our own points of view on them. The admission of the People's Republic of Angola as a full member in the union of African Parliamentarians, and later to the interparliamentarian world organization, were events of high importance to our people and state. This gave us an opportunity to make our points of view known and to receive greater solidarity in these two international forums for our efforts. This must be put to good use in our next legislative session.

Within the same context we must strengthen and broaden our links with parliamentarians and parliamentary groups worldwide, so that we can participate actively and consistently as a group in the struggle for justice, liberty, and social progress of the peoples and in particular in the eradication of the humiliating and aggressive apartheid regime installed in South Africa. This will be so much more important if we recall that recently a group of European parliamentarians received the Angolan renegade Savimbi, a known agent of imperialism in the pay of Pretoria.

We demand from the new deputies to the People's Assembly in the next legislative session maximum diligence and dynamism in the implementation of the tasks that will be assigned to them, so that People's Assembly will become, in fact, an organ of the people's power, as it was the wish of the late president Dr Antonio Agostinho Neto. The deputies mandates end with this special session, but I want all of you to continue participating actively in the social and economic development of the Angolan people, so that we can achieve methodically the objectives of progress, well-being, and social justice for our people according to our constitutional laws and under the leadership of our party. I declare the present session open.

MPLA-Labor Party's Objectives 'Not Achieved'

MB011047 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
1900 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Despite the fact that the principal objectives outlined by the Second Congress of the MPLA-Labor Party for this year were not achieved, the guidelines and decisions regarding the implementation of priority actions at party and government levels remain valid. This was decided during the 18th ordinary session of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee. This meeting, which took place from 26 to 29 November, (?centered on) [words indistinct] and positive steps were taken regarding the strengthening of the party's leading role. The process of assemblies, conferences, and mandate renewals was hailed as a total success in that it contributed toward revitalizing the party's grassroot structures, as well as the leadership bodies at all levels.

After analyzing the situation caused by the world economic and financial crisis and the fall in the prices of Angola's main export products, the Central Committee decided to recommend strengthened austerity measures and instructed party members and the people in general to control the strict implementation of party guidelines and make them more dynamic [words indistinct] which the country has to limit.

With regard to supply, the Central Committee instructed the defense and security council to continue to take charge of coordinating actions concerning priority goods because it was found that, despite the completion of the first phase of the new national supply system, there are still difficulties caused by dependence on other countries for large quantities of foodstuffs and other goods, transport difficulties, and excessive embezzlement and red tape when trading the goods.

Regarding the (?situation) in the field of education, the respective party and government bodies were recommended to [words indistinct] the efforts of the Youth of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola, mass and social organizations, and local people [words indistinct] such as building schools and [words indistinct].

The efforts and initiatives by the party and government bodies in Cunene Province to seek practical solutions to the problems affecting education were duly praised.

The Central Committee hailed the solidarity of the Angolan people from Cabinda Province to Cunene Province with the Mozambican people at a time of deep sorrow for the sudden and tragic loss of Comrade Samora Moises Machel, founder and chairman of the Frelimo Party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique.

The 18th session of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee ended with a declaration deploring the cynicism of Western governments which, despite diplomatic and cooperation ties with Angola (?welcomed) Jonas Savimbi, the ringleader of the Angolan counterrevolution. It also saluted the governments which did not behave in this manner.

The MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee paid homage to the ill-fated Mozambican President Samora Moises Machel and hailed the election of Joaquim Alberto Chissano as chairman of the Frelimo Party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique.

The MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee reiterated that the racist Pretoria regime continues to be the main source of destabilization in southern Africa and condemned U.S. interference in the internal affirs of southern African countries. It also reiterated its support for all peoples fighting for their independence and freedom in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and Latin America.

140 UNITA 'Bandits' Killed, Weapons Captured

MB020822 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
1900 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] The FAPLA combatants in the 4th Military Region killed 140 UNITA bandits and captured 6 others during clashes in Chitembo, (Onduvale), (Amoche), and (Tembo da Huila). In the operations the national defense and security forces seized 30 light weapons, a radio set, 101 assorted shells, 26 hand grenades, 11,000 antipersonel grenades, and other war materiel. An official source from the 4th military region said that 292 civilians were released from the yoke of the puppets. The 4th military region includes Huambo and Bie Provinces, and its commander is Lieutenant Colonel Marcos Monakapua Bassovava.

MOZAMBIQUE

Over 100,000 Facing Starvation in Sofala

MB011139 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
1100 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] More than 100,000 people are facing starvation in Mozambique's central province of Sofala because of South Africa's MNR terrorists. This was revealed by the governor of the province, Francisco Masquil, in a meeting in Beira with the British ambassador to Mozambique, (James Allen). Mr Masquil said the situation of food in several districts of the province, like Gorongosa, is not satisfactory. He called on the international community to help with more emergency food aid.

Iranian Commerce Minister Arrives in Maputo

LD020954 Tehran IRNA in English 0943 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 2, IRNA — Iran's Commerce Minister Hasan Abedi Ja'fari heading an economic delegation to east African countries, arrived in Maputo, Mozambique, Monday for a two-day visit and was welcomed at the airport by local officials. Upon his arrival, Ja'fari met with the Mozambican minister for international economic trade. During the meeting, the Mozambican minister expressed his country's willingness for the expansion of mutual relations with Iran.

Abedi Ja'fari proposed formation of two cultural and commercial committees to study practical grounds for mutual cooperation between the two countries which received approval of Mozambican officials. The Iranian delegation left Tehran for a three-leg tour to Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Tanzania, on Nov. 30.

Forces Kill 18 'Armed Bandits' in Zambezia

MB011424 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1400 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] NOTICIAS reports that 18 armed bandits have been shot dead by the Mozambique Armed Forces in Gurue district of Zambezia province. A total of 13 armed bandits and a number of bullets were captured during the operations, and 60 people who had been forced to live with the bandits were released. The armed bandits had infiltrated Gurue from Malawi.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO: Police 'Initiated' Katutura Violence

MB011927 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1914 GMT 1 dec 86

[Text] Windhoek Dec 1 SAPA — Unrest at a SWAPO political rally in Katutura yesterday was initiated by armed members of a Defence Force unit and a reportedly army-controlled cultural movement functioning mainly in northern SWA/Namibia, known as Etnango, SWAPO's deputy chairman, Mr Daniel Tjongarero, said in Windhoek tonight.

One man died and more than 20 people were admitted to hospital with injuries sustained at the meeting which, SWAPO said, was attended by 2000 people when the violence erupted. The dead man is Mr Immanuel Shifidi, who was freed last year after serving 20 years in prison on Robben Island.

Mr Tjongarero told a news conference that several days before the meeting on Sunday, a number of SWAPO members received anonymous telephone calls that bombs would be detonated at the rally, called to commemorate the International Year of Peace.

SWAPO members had notices a large presence of a special police counter-insurgency unit, popularly known as Koevoet, at Katutura's police station before the meeting began, he said. "Before the first speaker started at approximately 2:40pm members of the Defence Force unit and also Etango" were spotted and identified by SWAPO security personnel among the crowd at the meeting. "They were requested to leave for they were armed," Mr Tjongarero said. They left but returned about 30 minutes later armed with knobkieries, bows and arrows, spears, pangas [hatchets] and firearms.

"They started by smashing cars parked at the roadside," Mr Tjongarero claimed. They then converged on the crowd who fled. "It was at this junction that Comrade Shifidi was killed by the assailants."

At that stage eight to 10 police cars under the command of a senior security police officer, Colonel Jasper Coffee, hurriedly left the scene. "Their departure was very suspicious," Mr Tjongarero added.

A few minutes later, Casspir armoured vehicles arrived and started shooting teargas canisters and rubber bullets at a crowd "that was not there at all." They drove across the vacant field of the meeting, smashing load hailers and the stage where the speakers who addressed the meeting had stood. Mr Tjongarero said two hours later the Casspir vehicles were still firing teargas and rubber butllets in the vicinity , and then the vehicles proceeded to the Donkerhoek area of Katutura where more car windows were smasjed, including the car of SWAPO's acting president, Mr Nathaniel Maxuppili.

He contested a police statement that the fighting had erupted among people who had attended the meeting. "It is a big lie. The people attending the meeting were attacked by a group of people who may even be known to the police," Mr Tjongarero said. SWAPO had complied a list of names of the alleged attackers identified by people at the meeting.

It was also untrue, he said, that police had broken up the meeting because the chairman had lost control over the crowd. When the police Casspirs arrived, people were already flocking back to the centre stage, because by then the initial attackers had run away.

Mr Tjongarero said members of the United States Embassy in South Africa had been present at the rally and witnessed the events. "To the police I want to say I think they have told unprecedented lies and fabrications which will not withstand the test of truth," he said. "We call as an organisation for an independent inquiry into what has happened."

Mr Tjongarero said a SWAPO social function in Katutura at about 3am on Saturday to welcome SWAPO branches outside Windhoek had been attacked by a white-led "commando, possibly wearing military boots judging from marks found on the road." The attackers "smashed window screens, switched off the electrictiry of the house and then broke window panes, beat up people, shot one young man and grazed him on the forehead, and attacked six other people who had to be admitted to hospital."

He described it as a typical "recce" [reconnaissance] operation.

Mr Tjongarero attributed the incidents to the nullification Of the Prohibition and Noticiation of Meetings Act by the Windhoek Supreme Court in July this year. The act had effectively prevented SWAPO from holding public meeting since 1981. "It was the culmination of a programme that started (in July) trying to prevent SWAPO from holding public meetings in this country," he said. Instead of appealing against the court's ruling, the authorities had resorted to "the law of the jungle" and harassment of SWAPO to prove that the holding of public meetings in SWA/Namibia was not in the public interests, Mr Tjongarero said. He vowed that SWAPO would reschedule the meeting disrupted on Sunday. Mr Tjongarero added that funeral arrangements for Mr Shifidi had not been finalised.

SOUTH AFRICA

Reasons for Rejection of Indaba 'Untruths'

MB011221 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1215 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Durban Dec 1 SAPA — The chairman of the Natal-KwaZulu Indaba, Prof Desmond Clarence, today described the reasons given by the National Party's Natal leader, Mr Stoffel Botha, for rejecting the Indaba's proposals as "untruths." "The Indaba is a unique gathering and is the first time this has happened in the country. How a cabinet minister can summarily dismiss the recommendations is beyond my comprehension," Prof Clarence said at a press conference. "Mr Botha says we do not provide for power-sharing — but this is the very thing we've been talking about for the past five months."

Prof Clarence also said it was not true that the Indaba constitution planned a one-man, one-vote system in a Westminister type government. "There are many points in the constitution which counter this statement. I don't believe Mr Botha found the time to read them."

Suggestions that the final proposals were rushed through as delegates unlikely to accept them were not present were "mischievous," he said. The Indaba had reached the basic constitutional agreements three weeks ago and every delegate would be given an opportunity to accept or reject the proposals. "Obviously Mr Botha was acting on very bad information."

Mr Frank [illegible], co-convenor of the Indaba, said Mr Botha's remarks would have done the country immense harm overseas. "We have had ambassadors such as Mr Herbert Beukes in Washington lauding the Indaba as a sign of genuine reform on the part of the government. To now reject it will have seriously affected our international image. Mr Botha must clarify whether he is speaking as someone in the cabinet or in his personal capacity."

Natal Politics 'Polarized'

MB011140 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] The leader of the New Republic [NRP], Mr Bill Sutton, says the summary rejection of the Natal-KwaZulu Indaba by the NP will dissipate the goodwill built up during the Indaba and end any chance of success for the national council. Mr Sutton said in a statment issued in Cape Town that the rejection of the model of the Indaba made nonsense of the concept of power sharing. He said in practical terms, power sharing in South Africa could only mean a coalition between parties across the color line. Mr Sutton said the government's attitude had polarized political thinking in Natal, placing mainly Afrikaners on one side and the rest of Natal on the other.

Rejection Prompts CP 'Relief'

MB012039 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2028 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Dec 1, SAPA — The National Party's conditional rejection of the KwaNatal Indaba proposals was "nothing but a red herring," the Conservative Party (CP) said today. Dr A.P. Treurnicht, leader of the CP, said his party's feedback from voters in Natal indicated "relief" at the NP's decision.

"However, voters should note carefully that power sharing in South Africa will lead to black domination, and this has never been denied by the National Party. It should be noted with care that the NP believes firmly in power sharing as a principle. It must also be remembered that this government believes South Africa could have a black president as stated by Mr Pik Botha in February of this year."

He said the CP would refuse a non-racial franchise if a referendum were to be held in Natal as "this would be yet another ploy to swamp white voters with non-white numbers." "The CP demands from the National Party a clear and honest blue print as far as black participation in government up to the highest level is concerned."

Dr Treurnicht noted that Mr Chris Heunis, minister of constitutional development and planning, stated in July this year that the cabinet "fully endorsed the KwaNatal Indaba as it could be a constitutional model for the rest of South Africa" but that Mr Stoffel Botha, minister of home affairs and communications, now rejected it.

Indaba Rejection Regretted

MB011036 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1019 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Durban, Dec 1, SAPA — The National Party's initial rejection of the Natal-KwaZulu indaba constitutional proposals for a multi-racial Natal was to be regretted, the KwaZulu minister of education, Dr Oscar Dhlomo, said in Durban today.

Speaking at a press conference, he said the statement issued by the National Party's Natal leader, Mr Stoffel Botha, gave the impression that Mr Botha had not yet studied the indabas full constitutional proposals.

"I think Mr Botha's statement is ill-advised," Dr Dhlomo said. He said he believed that Mr Botha, who is also minister of home affairs, was not expressing official government policy. Dr Dhlomo said Mr Botha was "naive" in thinking that there would be many more indabas.

"This could well be the one and only indaba of its kind and the minister and the National Party should make up their minds about approving its proposals," he said. Also speaking at the press conference, Mr Frank Martin, a former Natal MEC [Member of Executive Committee] and joint convenor of the indaba with Dr Dhlomo, said a rejection by the ruling National Party of the Indaba's proposals could seriously affect the Indaba's credibility internationally.

The government should make it clear whether Mr Botha was expressing official government policy when he rejected the indabas' constitutional proposals, Mr Martin said.

Official Says Soweto Wall for Pedestrian Safety

MB011527 Johannebsurg THE CITIZEN in English
1 Dec 86 p 3

[By Andrew Thomson]

[Text] A concrete fence next to the N13 highway near Soweto is not the start of a "Berlin Wall" which will soon enclose the township, the chief director of national roads in the Department of Transport, Mr Malcolm Mitchell, told *The Citizen* yesterday.

The fence was designed to prevent pedestrians crossing the highway and would be no longer than six kilometres when completed.

"About 70 percent of fatal accidents on national roads are pedestrian-related," he said, adding that the erection of fences alongside national roads was an international practice.

A report in *The Sunday Star* said that "a huge wall is springing up around Soweto and will probably cut the sprawling township off from the rest of Johannesburg once completed."

The *Sunday Tribune* dropped the word "probably" and stated that "Soweto is being locked in by a huge concrete wall."

An on-site inspection by *The Citizen* revealed that the "wall" was actually a fence of reinforced concrete, at present about two kilometres long. It runs alongside the N13 where it passes the elite Black suburb of Diepkloof Extension.

The Citizen also inspected concrete walls dividing the N13 from the White suburbs of Mondeor, Gillview and Crown Gardens, among others.

Mr Mitchell said that pedestrians wishing to cross national roads in built-up areas should do so over bridges provided for the purpose.

The concrete fence near Diepkloof was the department's third attempt to make that section of road safe. A six-strand wire fence had at first been erected, but this had been removed by unauthorised persons.

The department had then erected a wire-mesh fence but this, too, had been removed. The concrete fence, less foreboding than the concrete walls built along other sections, was the last resort.

He lamented the fact that the newspapers concerned had not made the effort to ascertain the truth.

Security Forces Teargas Crowd During Festival

MB011738 Johannesburg SOWETAN in English
1 Dec 86 pp 1,2

[Text] A festival staged to raise funds for a charity organisation was disrupted when members of the security forces allegedly fired teargas canisters into a crowd of more than 15,000 music fans at Orlando Stadium yesterday.

But a spokesperson for the Bureau for Information in Pretoria said the police denied that such an incident took place.

She said she made inquiries from police on the scene who told her the festival was proceeding smoothly.

The Save The Children festival was also attended by representatives of local and foreign media.

Mr William Ngobeni, who was at the stadium, told the *Sowetan* that one of the performing groups, Stimela, was in the middle of rendering a song when the security forces fired teargas canisters into the crowd shortly before 4pm.

"People started running in all directions when police sjambokked [whipped] them. A few were injured," he said.

He said it appeared the police did not want the festival to take place because it had political motives.

He explained that the festival started late because the presence of the police near the entrances intimidated some of the people.

Photographer Mbuzeni Zulu, who had his camera broken during the stampede, said he saw the organisers being taken away by members of the security forces.

He said on their return they told the crowd that they had been warned that the show must come to an end at 4pm.

Housing Program To 'Boost' Economic Development

MB020530 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] Unemployment and the housing shortage are two of the most pressing socioeconomic problems facing South Africa. At the last — official — count, 533,000 South Africans were out of work. The shortage of homes in the country stands at around 300,000.

Now the government and the private sector have joined forces in an assault on these two problem areas. Leading the campaign will be the South African Housing Trust, the formation of which, with a board of prominent businessmen, was announced at the weekend. The government is injecting 400 million rand into the trust and it is planned to raise another 800 million rand through private investment in the next 2 or 3 years.

The parameters for the operation of the trust have been clearly demarcated. At the higher economic levels, financing of housing by building societies will, as in the past, be the norm, while the provision of housing for low-income groups and social welfare cases remains the responsibility of the state. The new trust will seek to cater for the housing needs of those who fall between these levels.

The emphasis will be on self-build schemes, providing both work and homes for people who are presently unemployed. Concentration will be on providing sites in areas where the house builders can look forward to future job opportunities once they have completed their homes. Red tape will be cut and pilot schemes will begin next month. All population groups will benefit.

This imaginative effort to generate more employment while actively addressing the housing shortage follows earlier government moves on unemployment, including the injection of 885 million rand into employment projects and the broadening of the social security net to assist more people under the Unemployment Insurance Fund.

The housing project will also help stimulate the economy in general. It will do so without placing a burden on the balance of payments position or on the foreign debt situation, as the building industry is not very import-orientated.

The project can also be expected to help build the solid foundation for socioeconomic stability and security that is imperative if political reform is to be carried out in an orderly and lasting manner.

Coming as it does against the background of sanctions, boycotts and disinvestment, the initiative announced at the weekend will be a boost to the promotion of stable conditions for economic growth and orderly political change. It also represents a vote of confidence by the public and private sectors in the future of South Africa.

Blacks Willing To Give Up Jobs To End Apartheid

MB011105 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1033 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Dec 1, SAPA — Almost half of South Africa's urban black population (43 per cent) is willing to accept the loss of their jobs in the struggle against apartheid, an opinion poll conducted by Research Surveys has established. In a press release today, Research Surveys says it was found that 21 per cent would do so reluctantly and 14 per cent said they would be resentful of such a sacrifice.

Sixteen per cent said none of the options applied in their case and six per cent said they "didn't know."

The younger generation of men, those between the ages of 18 and 34, appeared more willing to accept the sacrifice (47 per cent) compared with only 32 per cent in the group aged 50 and older. Sixteen per cent in the older group said they would be resentful about losing their jobs.

Loss of job notwithstanding, 40 per cent of urban men said they "strongly agreed" or "agreed" that the African National Congress and people such as Archbishop Desmond Tutu and the Rev Alan Boesak were "right in calling for sanctions to force the government to remove apartheid."

In contrast, 16 per cent "strongly disagreed" or "disagreed" with this while 16 per cent of the respondents said they neither agreed nor disagreed or "didn't know."

Research surveys says "the most vociferous support" for the proposals came from the 25-34 age group, with 45 per cent expressing "strong agreement" or "agreement," compared with only 29 per cent in the 50 and older group.

In the older group, 11 per cent "strongly disagreed" and 21 per cent "disagreed."

The survey was conducted before the announcements of the General Motors buy-out, Kodak's withdrawal, IBM's decision to sell its South African business, the Bata shoe company's announcement and the Barclays Bank sale of its South African assets.

On current unemployment, one in four of the respondents across all income groups said there had been job losses in thier families, with the most affected occurring in the income group with a monthly wage of R200 or less (52 per cent).

"Not surprisingly, 42 per cent of job losses were reported from the unemployment-torn eaastern Cape, but 35 per cent of respondents in the Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vaal [as received] triangle also said their families had been hit by people being put out of work," the report states.

Those most affected by unemployment were in the income group with a monthly wage of R200 or less (52 per cent).

Manging director of Research Surveys, Mr Henry Barenblatt, said: "In sum, most people are aware of the consequences of sanctions, political support for these meausres is by no means uniform despite a strong viewpoint about the rightness of calling for sanctions, and if there is mass unemployment, the financial strain on extended families to support the jobless would be considerable.

"Indeed, this poll suggests that such support may not even be forthcoming for many people thrown out of work simply because the resources would not be there."

Urban Blacks Prefer Negotiated End to Apartheid

MB011136 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1117 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Dec 1, SAPA — The "overwhelming" preference of urban blacks is for a negotiated — not a violent — end to apartheid, according to a nationwide poll. And nearly three-quarters opt for a multiracial rather than a black government.

In the Research Survey's Omnicheck poll, respondents were asked: "If you had a free choice, would you prefer black political freedom to be gained by violence or negotiation?"

In all categories, the overwhelming preference was for negotiation, with 75 per cent supporting this option compared with 13 per cent supporting violence and the remainder rejecting both options (three per cent) or giving a "don't know" answer.

Greatest support for violence came from the 18-24 age group (17 per cent) while respondents aged 50 or older most favoured negotiation (86 per cent).

But perceptions of when blacks would win a significant political voice were pessimistic.

One in four men and women said they did not know when blacks would win a political voice; a similar percentage said "not for a long time," 13 per cent forecast a voice within the next 10 years, 18 per cent said "within the next five years," and 10 per cent gave a one-year forecast.

Following these responses both men and women were then asked to select options in answer to this statement: "Mr P.W. Botha is asking black leaders to sit with him on a national council to seek political solutions for all races."

Thirty-six of all respondents said they would be happy to support any blacks willing to work with Mr Botha.

Nine per cent would prefer black leaders not in detention to boycott the national council.

Sixteen per cent said they would regard participating in the council as sell-outs, while 16 per cent could not accept any of these questions and 22 per cent said "they didn't know."

In response to options, 74 per cent of the men and women said they would prefer a multiracial form of government in which whites, Indians, coloureds and blacks "had a voice," compared with 14 per cent opting for an all-black government based on one man one vote. Four per cent said neither option met their views and eight per cent opted for a "don't know."

Three out of four respondents of all age, income and language groups said they favoured a multiracial form of government.

Urban Blacks Polled on Adherence to Stayaways

MB011239 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1225 GMT 1 dec 86

[Text] Johannesburg Dec 1 SAPA — An Omnicheck poll has shown that 31 per cent of urban blacks never heed work stay-away calls. Of urban blacks males who agreed to answer political questions in a intimidation-free environment in a Research Survey's Omnichek opinion poll, 31 per cent said they did not heed calls to stay away from work. Another 31 per cent said they often stayed away from work and 17 per cent said they "sometimes" did so. Twenty-one per cent chose not to comment.

Of those who did stay away, 59 per cent said they did so willingly, 33 per cent said they did so reluctantly, and nine per cent refused to comment.

And, 46 per cent said their employers had been unsympathetic and had penalised them by deducting pay or holiday time compared with 39 per cent who said their employers had been sympathetic and given them full pay. Six per cent said they had been warned of "dismissal next time." Nine per cent said none of these reactions had come from their employers.

Research Survey's joint managing director Henry Barenblatt said that the poll of those willing to freely discuss the issue of work stay-aways clearly indicated a lack of solidarity among urban blacks when it came to obeying stay-away calls. "Remove the element of intimidation, and the sort of stay-away figures may very well reflect a different picture, with the exception of the younger men who indicated a more militant attitude in obeying stay-away calls. It is clear too that while employees may have been sympathetic towards enforced stay aways, there could be an emerging trend of hardening attitudes."

The Omnichek poll showed that in Durban, a massive 74 per cent of respondents said they "never" stayed away from work against 46 per cent of workers in the Pretoria-Witwatersrand-vaal industrial complex who said they "often" heeded the call to stay away.

By language, 45 per cent of Zulu-speaking blacks gave the "never" response compared with 24 per cent who said they "often" heeded the call to stay away. In most other major language groups, more than 40 per cent said they obeyed the stay away call (Xhosa: 40 per cent, North Sotho: 44 per cent, South Sotho: 47 per cent).

By age, 36 per cent of those aged 50 or more said "never" compared with 27 per cent of men aged 25-34 who answered "sometimes."

Among young men aged 18-24, 46 per cent said they didn't want to comment.

Respondents who said they stayed away willingly cut across all categories of age, language, income and region and exceeded 50 per cent in all but a few cases.

Most militant respondents appeared to be men aged 18-24 (67 per cent) and those aged 50 and older (60 per cent) and those who earned R800 a month or more (62 per cent) and most workers in the PWV area (62 per cent).

Of the workers who had met with little sympathy from employers, 57 per cent were in the R200-R700 a month income group whereas 51 per cent of those who earned R800 a month or more said their employers had been sympathetic .

Warnings of dismissal had been experienced by 36 per cent of respondents earning R200 a month or less.

GM Firing 15 Percent of Port Elizabetn Workers

MB011318 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1300 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] General Motors is sacking about 15 percent of its Port Elizabeth work force. The already depressed economic situation in the eastern Cape is set to take a turn for the worse following GM's announcement that about 100 workers are about to be fired. Personnel manager George Stegman says the move is the last of its kind before the company's South African interests are taken over by local management. Earlier in the month workers at the Automobile giant's Port Elizabeth factories were on strike over concerns that they hadn't been properly informed of the conditions of the American pullout. Although workers returned to work, the issues haven't been resolved.

Domestic Workers Union Holds Inaugural Meeting

MB011418 Johannebsurg SAPA in English
1414 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Cape Town Dec 1 SAPA — A new union for about 50,000 domestic workers nationwide has been launched. Called the South African Domestic Workers Union, it is an amalgamation of several organisations in major urban centres and is the culmination of nearly two years of talks.

About 500 delegates attended the inaugural congress at the University of the Western Cape [UWC]. They passed resolutions demanding laws to protect domestics, living wages of R200 a month, pensions, workmen's compensation, unemployment insurance, sick leave and pay, maternity benefits and holiday pay.

The congress closed yesterday with a four-hour indoor rally after permission to hold a rally at the UWC sports stadium was refused. A Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) banner was prominently displayed and the union's first president, Mrs Violet Motlhasedi, told the rally that the union would "stand up against exploitation under the umbrella of COSATU." She said domestic workers were the "most exploited sector and we will have to fight to organise the unorganised. As from today we are openly exposed and must expect pressure and harassment."

Miss Florrie de Villiers, general secretary, said there were more than a million domestic workers to be organised. "For the past 300 years we have carried this land but all this time have not had laws protecting us but are seen as non-people. We represent 50,000 members, but the rest still have to be organised."

Miners Involved in Illegal Strike Dismissed

MB011218 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1212 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Johannesburg Dec 1 SAPA — Ninety-four workers who took part in an illegal strike at the Matla coal mine near Kriel in the eastern Transvaal had been dismissed, the owners, GENCOR [General Mining Union Corporation], said today. Other workers who took part in the strike on November 25 resumed their duties on Saturday and the situation at the mine had returned to normal, according to GENCOR coal division's senior manager, planning and services, Mr J.C.J. van Rensburg.

He said in a statement issued in Johannesburg that all the strikers had received disciplinary hearings "for being absent without permission." Workers were not allowed to work until the hearings were completed on Friday. "A total of 94 workers who had received final warnings previously were dismissed. All the other participants in the strike received final warnings. The strike was in breach of a signed undertaking given to management by the National Union of Mineworkers on participatoin in illegal strikes." The National Union of Mineworkers could not immediately be contacted for comment.

Three Buses Destroyed, Damaged in Firebombings

MB020950 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0941 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Port Elizabeth, Dec 2, SAPA — Three buses were gutted in a spate of petrol-bomb attacks in Port Elizabeth [PE] townships yesterday, causing damage of R480,000, according to Mr Carl Coetzer, managing director of PE tramways. Damage to six other buses amounted to R20,000 and for the second time this year, but services into the black townships have been withdrawn.

Mr Coetzer said before services were continued, the public would have to indicate "they want and are prepared to support the service without burning buses." He said the latest attacks were the first since the declaration of a state of emergency in July when 10 vehicles were destroyed.

Information Bureau Issues 2 Dec Unrest Report

MB021142 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1138 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 2, SAPA — The Bureau for Information's situation report for the 24 hours to midnight last night.

"At 6.30pm in Mamelodi-West (Pretoria) yesterday, two unknown black persons fired about seven shots at Dr and Mrs F.D. Ribeiro fatally wounding both. Mrs Ribeiro was the sister of Robert Sobukwe. They were shot as they arrived at their home, house 7116, corner of Ribeiro and Chabangu roads. A .45 calibre weapon was used. No arrests were made. Police investigations continue.

"Yesterday, the burned body of a man was discovered by security forces at the dumping site of Kwa Nobuhle (Uitenhage). No arrests have been made.

"In Soweto about 200 black youths attacked a private home with stones. A man was abducted from the house and burned alive by the group. No arrests have yet been made.

"Other unrest-related incidents reported during the abovementioned 24-hours, consisted of isolated petrol bomb attacks on buses and private homes in six different townships causing serious damage. In one incident a black man was arrested."

Press Comments on Current Problems, Issues

MB020718 [Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN on Lull in Anti-RSA Campaign

Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 29 November in a page 6 editorial says that the "lull in the campaign of hate against South Africa from neighboring countries" is perhaps because they "realise their allegations of South African complicity in the air crash in which President Samora Machel was killed were totally unfounded." The paper also says that "it appeared recently as if South Africa was going to have a crack at Botswana for allowing the ANC to muster there and to use two routes through that country in attacking South Africa, but South Africa appears, at least for the present, to be leaving the matter to diplomatic exchanges." But, "if any serious incidents occur, and the terrorists can be traced back to Botswana, South Africa may be tempted to hit hard."

Indaba Plan Worthy of Study

The page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 1 December says that "it is doubtful whether the central government is going to accept" the Natal-KwaZulu/Indaba plan for "it does not fit in with the government's own ideas of provincial and regional rule, and it is doubtful whether the plan would dovetail into any constitutional dispensation." The paper points out that the "radical black movements have rejected the plan," some Afrikaner organizations in the Indaba have also rejected the plan, and government supporters and right-wing parties would be "even more vehement in their opposition to it." "The Indaba plan is not the final work on the subject, but it is an interesting one and deserves serious study since it contains some ideas that are pertinent to any discussion of the future."

THE STAR on New Cabinet

"Though Mr Botha's Cabinet has two new members, with a virtual doubling-up of deputies to support them, its composition gives no inkling of any intention to hasten reform," says a page 12 editorial in Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 1 December. "On the contrary, the opportunity of the reshuffle was not used to encourage the belief that the coloured and Indian parliamentary participation will be rewarded by increased involvement at executive level. All signs point instead to a battening down of the hatches as a counter against sanctions storms, and to the mobilisation of white sentiment for a defiant stand against the world." *The Star* believes that if Pretoria "gives a genuine lead, uncomplicated by confusing and contradictory signals," the bulk of the people from all groups would respond with enthusiasm. "The dark cloud over South Africa would begin to lift."

Detentions Cause of Suicides

The same page carries an article by the Detainees' Parents Support Committee in the "Our View" column saying "of a total of 62 known deaths in detention since 1963 at least 29 have been attributed to suicide." "A further startling fact is that about half of these deaths took place within the first week of detention. At least 23 people died within one day of being detained." "Not only would it appear the electorate does not care, but the few who are moved by conscience and compassion to protest and offer succour are hounded, intimidated, threatened and sometimes detained themselves." "The whole process of detention without trial subverts the rule of law and lends itself to abuse. As long as we have a system of detention without trial deaths must be expected."

BUSINESS DAY on Barclays UK Withdrawal

Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 1 December says in a page 4 editorial that Barclays UK's disengagement from SA's economy "will not be as hasty as many expected, mainly because it now holds its former investment in financial rands. These funds, blocked by this rather crude foreign exchange control, cannot flow out of the country until they are matched by funds flowing in, and will make the bank a reluctant partner in SA's economy for many years to come." "Given the volatility of financial markets, it is not inconceivable that the UK bank could find itself tempted to finance the South African government directly by investing government stock. This rather unusual turn of events could result because of the limited avenues open to investors of financial rands." However, the UK bank will, for the present, benefit from the deal it has struck with its South African partner. "It appears then, that sometimes even political expediency can be profitable."

SOWETAN on Ban on Indoor Gatherings

"With the new amendment to the emergency regulations that enables the police to ban indoor gatherings, it is no exaggeration to say that the state of emergency might become a permanent feature of our legislation," says a page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 1 December. "Although people tend to get used to draconian pieces of legislation we are outraged by this new ban." "It would seem that the ban on indoor meetings is aimed at the outcrop of street committees in various black townships. Our view is it is better for people in their areas to meet and thrash out their problems rather than have faceless groups decide on projects and sometimes political campaigns thought out by few."

Indaba Proposal Retains Group Rights

On the same page the "Focus" column says that the KwaZulu/Natal Indaba "is over and there are no surprises. Group areas will go but group rights will stay. If you don't want to be a person of African, Afrikaans, Asian or English background you can belong to a 'South African' group." The column says that "if group rights are a sop to insecure minorities, the retention of existing traditional authorities in KwaZulu, as part of the system of local government, is a sop to potential anxiety among chiefs in the face of a disbanded KwaZulu legislative Assembly." "A rather small carrot is held out to the central government in the proposal that a governor of Natal be appointed by the State President on the advice of the provincial legislature."

THE NAMIBIAN on Press Freedom

The page 15 editorial in Windhoek *The Namibian* in English on 28 November says that it hopes interim government's plans to institute an own publications control board for Namibia "will not be used as an instrument to silence a portion of the press which is critical of the present constitutional dispensation in this country." "We must once again remind the interim government Cabinet that several of their members agreed to abide by the ruling of the courts on human rights issues, and in the event of them creating a publications control board for Namibia, to base this board on the solid foundations of freedom of speech and freedom of the press. The press is usually regarded as a 'watchdog' and its role has deeper meaning in a country where the government of the day has been appointed and has no mandate from the people it claims to represent."

Pro-435 Initiative Commendable

Gwen Lister says in her "Political Perspective" column on page 16 that "strange things are happening in 'white' politics in Namibia," referring to the formation of a pro-435 initiative "known as Namibia Peace Plan 435 (NPP435)," which announced its formation in Windhoek this week. "Veteran politician Bryan O'Linn will chair the movement, with co-chairs Mr Peter Koep and Professor Christo Lombard. It is a commendable initiative, for it is in the 'white' community where anti-435 propaganda is strongest, and where the settlement plans, as Mr Peter Koep quite rightly said, is regarded as a 'SWAPO-document.'" Lister hopes that the NPP 435 "will not try to remain an 'exclusive' contact group."

RAPPORT: Voters Doubt PFP Potential

On page 27 of Johannesburg *Rapport* in Afrikaans on 30 November Anne-Marie Mischke says the "alleged division between the left and right wing of the PFP" is not the PFP's greatest problem. Mischke believes that the PFP's problem is that "for years it has never gone near the ruling bench. Fair or not, voters begin to doubt the capabilities of the party... because it is making no progress." A dilemma which it can no longer avoid is: "How must a mixed a party function within a parliamentary system which still excludes blacks? Is the ideal of trying to gain 52 seats reconcilable with the aim of winning credibility in the eyes of other population groups?" Mischke points out that the PFP is now a mixed party and "even though it is not flooded by colored members, there are enough coloreds in the party for the party to consider the points of view. More important is the argument that if the PFP succeeds in changing the present government system, it will need great colored support to come into power and to also stay in power. Therefore it should take care about its credibility among colored people."

BEELD Skeptical of Indaba Proposal

A page 8 editorial in Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 1 December refers to the Indaba plan saying that "it would be asking too much to find a solution within 8 months for a problem which South Africa has been saddled with for several hundred years." "It appears that the consensus only existed in the imagination of a group of participants." *Beeld* says that "as soon as something like this gets the stamp of party politics then one must know that the case is halfway lost. If political reporters of the English press describe the success of the conference as a defeat for the government, and if PFP leader Colin Eglin becomes euphoric and gloats that the government has no other choice but to approve the proposed constitution, then one should know that something has gone wrong with the plans."

ZAMBIA

Zimbabwe's Banana Arrives for Private Visit

MB011233 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Zimbabwean President Comrade Canaan Banana has arrived in Lusaka for a 2-day private visit to Zambia. President Banana was met on arrival by Comrade President Dr Kaunda, Party Secretary General Comrade Grey Zulu, Prime Minister Comrade Kebby Musokotwane, the secretary of state for defense and security, Mrade Alex Shapi, and party and government officials. Comrade Banana is making his first visit to Zambia since Zimbabwe attained her independence in April 1980. He is expected to visit the Copper Belt and other tourist attractions during his short visit.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Heads Delegation to Trade Conference

MB020831 Harare Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Excerpt] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has left for the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa to attend the heads of state and government summit of the Preferential Trade Area. Comrade Mugabe was accompanied by the minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Witness Mangwende; the deputy minister of transport, Comrade Amina Hughes; and senior government officials. [passage omitted]

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

3 DECEMBER 1986

Israel

USSR Contacts — Reporting on the outcome of "secret contacts" between senior Israeli and Soviet diplomats, IDF radio said the Soviet Union has been showing interest in resuming official talks with Israel with the hope of establishing consular ties in return for the USSR's incorporation in the regional peace process. The Soviets suggested some form of follow-up to the Helsinki talks and indicated a readiness on their side to reconsider policy on the emigration of Soviet Jews. They also explained that the Soviet Union has been reassessing its Middle East policy, noting that the USSR's exclusive support for Syria is preventing it from playing a wider role in the Middle East political process.

Syrian CW Issue — The IDF is making efforts to step up its deterrent capability against Syrian chemical weapons, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin stated in remarks reported by Jerusalem radio. He told the Knesset that Syria's chemical weapons include warheads mounted on surface-to-surface missiles.

U.S.-Iran Affair — Responding to U.S. Colonel Oliver North's reported statement that he briefed Israeli official 'Amiran Nir on the destination of the money from the Iran arms deal, the prime minister's office announced that this is "completely unfounded" and that Nir had no idea that money from the deal was intended for the Nicaraguan contras, IDF radio reported.

Egypt

In remarks cited by MENA, President Husni Mubarak declared that he accepts "threats" from no one, though he doubted that a message received from the Israeli prime minister on Mubarak's stance against an expanded Israeli settlement policy was meant as a "warning," as reported by the Tel Aviv paper *Ma'Ariv*. Mubarak told journalists that Egypt has held contacts with both Israel and Jordan in an attempt to agree on a "formula" for Palestinian representation at an international conference and he said that PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat is welcome to come to Cairo for discussions on the issue. On the subject of efforts for economic reform, Mubarak stressed that the imposition of "burdens" by the IMF is unacceptable, and he hoped that an agreement can be reached next year.

Within the framework of talks on economic cooperation with the USSR, President Mubarak received a delegation headed by the chairman of the Soviet state bank, TASS reported.

Lebanon

Amal-Palestinian clashes continued in Beirut and near Sidon 2-3 December, Beirut radio reported, noting that efforts are continuing in Damascus to find a solution. A PLO military statement broadcast by Sanaa Voice of Palestine radio said the Palestinians repulsed an Amal attack on Shatila spearheaded by tanks and other armored vehicles. A Palestinian official cited by Voice of Lebanon radio accused Amal of murdering Palestinian civilians in Beirut and stated that some 5,000 Palestinian families have been displaced by the fighting.

Iran

USSR Relations — Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet Chairman Suleyman Tatliyev told the Iranian ambassador to the USSR that Iran is dealing "fateful blows" to imperialism, IRNA reported. During their meeting in Baku, he also expressed the Soviet Union's interest in expanding bilateral relations.

Powercuts — Tehran radio broadcast an Energy Ministry announcement warning the public of impending powercuts of up to 5 hours per day due to an electricity shortage.

Kuwait

A Foreign Ministry spokesman cited by KUNA denied that Kuwait has allowed its airspace to be used for "non-Kuwaiti military purposes," and he expressed "regret and astonishment" at Iran's accusations in this regard. Kuwait will not allow any foreign party to use its air, land, or territorial waters, he said, and it believes that Iran's "information campaign" will offend good-neighborly relations between the two countries.

Jordan

King Husayn received the Soviet general who is heading a military delegation, Amman radio reported.

Sudan

Ethiopian warplanes continued their strikes on villages in the eastern region by bombing Mandal 29 November, according to an *Al-Siyasah* report cited by SUNA. A Sudanese deputy charged that Ethiopia was not only targeting Eritrean rebels, but also trying to "provoke" the Sudanese Government. He called on Premier Al-Sadiq al-Madhi to "respond firmly."

Western Sahara

Polisario announced 3 December that its forces attacked a Romanian trawler off the Western Saharan coast in November, maintaining that Romania has supplied arms to Morocco, AFP reported. "Informed sources" cited by the agency said that a Romanian trawler was sunk 8 November.

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Jordanian Minister Addresses Conference in Tunis

JN022044 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Interior Minister Raja'i al-Dajani has said Jordan believes in the Arab citizen's right to security and stability because it is a sacred human right essential for progress and honorable life and for confronting all challenges and dangers. He added this right is a major guideline of Jordanian policy, through which we view Jordan's existence and steadfastness on the longest line of confrontation with Israel. This requires from us and from the internal security forces and the Jordanian Armed Forces constant special alertness to ward off danger and aggression against our Arab nation.

In a speech during the opening session of the fifth Arab interior ministers' conference, which began work in Tunis today, Al-Dajani stressed concern for the Palestinian question as the issue of all Arabs, saying:

To us, this is our main concern because it is a question of national and pan-Arab security, of usurped Arab rights, of Israeli challenges to the Arab nation, and of the colonialist onslaught and the struggle between our rights and the falsehood of our enemies. This issue also represents our concern regarding our livelihood and security and the confrontation of tragedies and numerous other responsibilities in the face of the 'no war no peace'situation to assert the Arab Palestinian identity on the Arab territories in occupied Palestine. It is a trust that must be carried out without expecting gratitude, privilege, or gain.

The interior minister discussed the Iraq-Iran war. He affirmed that the Iranian aggression is aimed against Arab national security and threatens Arab existence from the ocean to the Gulf. He said the effects of the war will not be limited to the warring countries, but will also affect the Arab nation. It will also enable the ambitious to carry out their plans against our nation and its Arabism. In his speech, the minister conveyed the greetings of King Husayn to Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba and the Tunisian Government and people.

Algeria's Yala Comments

LD021144 Algiers APS in English 1109 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Tunis, 02 Dec 86 (APS) — "It is necessary to avoid the amalgam between the blind terrorism which we condemn and the liberation struggles which are legitimate and which have the moral and material support of all peoples loving peace and justice" Interior Minister Hadj Yala declared Monday here at the opening of the conference of Arab interior ministers.

"Algeria, he continued, has made clear choices in this field and will never bargain over the aid needed by independence fighters either in our continent or all over the world. It is a task of solidarity which Algeria has never neglected as it has dearly acquired its freedom".

"When we speak on just causes and peoples struggling for their dignity, our thoughts turn to our Palestinian brothers who are waging a struggle with an exemplary courage and in extremly complex conditions against a conjugation of imperialism and Zionism with the complicity of their allies and agents".

Ministers Discuss 'Arms Deal'

LD021424 Rabat MAP in English 1242 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Tunis, Dec 2 (MAP).- The fifth session of the Council of Arab Interior Ministers opened its works here Monday morning with the participation of all member countries out of which 17 are represented at ministerial level.

The three day meeting is to examine a number of issues pertaining to the project of an Arab strategy for struggle against drugs, the projects of setting up a center to treat drug addicts in the Arab world, the draft amendment of the council's internal regulations in addition to the council's program of action and budget.

The council is also to examine a report by Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz on the activities of the Riyadh-based Arab center for security studies and training.

Opening this session, the Arab League secretary general dwelt in his address on the Iraq-Iran war, the U.S. arms shipments to Iran, the situation in Lebanon and the Arab stance towards terrorism.

Klibi who strongly condemned the U.S. arms shipments to Iran said the recent escalation in the Iraq-Iran war will prolong the conflict and impede any peaceful settlement.

Klibi voiced the Arab League's backing to Iraq's repeated calls for an end to the Gulf war through peaceful negotiations and appealed to Iran to accept peace initiatives.

Evoking the Lebanese tragedy, Klibi condemned the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon, and its stubborn refusal to abide by UN resolutions ordering the withdrawal of all Israeli forces from this Arab country.

He called on Arab states to join efforts to help Lebanon come out of this ordeal and recover its sovereignty and unity and deplored the fightings in the Palestinian refugee camps.

Regarding the Arab stance towards terrorism, Klibi said Arab countries denounce terrorism as they are its victims. He recalled that they had expressed readiness at the Casablanca Arab summit in 1985 to fight terrorism in cooperation with the European group and the international community.

Klibi stressed the role of the Arab Interior Ministers' Council in bringing about coordination and integration for the protection of the Arab home-front and in dealing with crime.

He urged the council to pay special attention to the living conditions of Palestinians as they have lived under difficult and unhuman conditions since 1948.

During the afternoon session, several heads of delegations took the floor to stress the necessity to come out of this session with concrete results to be up to the dangers threatening the Arab nation and help face the internal and external challenges facing the Arab world.

The speakers laid a special emphasis on the need to work out an inter-Arab strategy of struggle against drugs.

According to sources close to the meeting, the participants have adopted later in the evening the project of an Arab strategy for struggle against drugs.

Conference Ends; Report Issued

LD030947 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Text] The conference of Arab interior ministers last night ended its fifth session in Tunis, following meetings that went on for 2 days. Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the honorary president of the Council of Arab Interior Ministers, said in a news statement:

We have come out of this conference agreed on the issues discussed. The deliberations during the conference were objective, which indicates the maturity of the interior ministers and the delegations which participated in the conference. He expressed hope of moving on to wider cooperation in future meetings.

Regarding the treatment of drug addicts, the prince said this issue was submitted by the interior ministers to health ministers in order to establish sanatoriums for the treatment of addicts.

Akram Nash'at, secretary general of the Council of Arab Interior Ministers, held a news conference in which he said the conference adopted the report of the secretary general regarding the achievements of the Secretariat during the past few years and thanked the secretary general and all those working in the General Secretariat for their valuable efforts in accomplishing such achievements. The council expressed its profound appreciation of Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'aziz, the honorary president of the Council of the Arab Interior Ministers and president of the Administrative Board of the Arab Center for Security Studies and Training, for his constant efforts in directing the activities of the center to develop the Arab security services

The conference also adopted the plan of Arab strategy for combating the illicit use of drugs. The conference expressed its approval of the recommendations issued by the 11th conference of Arab police and security chiefs and the other conferences and meetings held at the Secretariat General of the council this year. The conference also approved the program of action and budget of the Secretariat for next year.

Regarding the Iraq-Iran war, the council issued a statement in which it announced its categorical rejection of the occupation of a single inch of Iraqi territory or any Arab land. It praised Iraq's attitude in accepting peace and its response to all endeavors and initiatives and resolutions, issued by Arab, Islamic and international organizations, that aim at putting an end to the conflict peacefully. The council appealed to Iran to respond to the peaceful initiatives and resolutions, which call for the ending of the conflict in a manner that achieves the legitimate rights and interests of both sides. The council condemned the arms cooperation between Iran and the Zionist entity and the United States — something which has been confirmed by sources within the United States and the Zionist entity.

Reagarding the escalated Zionist acts of aggression against the Palestinian people, the council reaffirmed that it stands side by side with the Palestinian people against the Zionist acts of aggression and asked the Arab governments to render the necessary aid to the PLO so it can check these acts of aggression, and to endeavor to halt the attacks on the Palestinian camps in Lebanon and facilitate the shipment of medical supplies and food to these camps.

The conference also reaffirmed its resolutions issued during its past four session regarding the treatment of Palestinians in the Arab countries. It charged the Secretariat General of the council to follow up its efforts and contacts with the cooperation of the Secretariat General of the Arab League and the PLO in order to implement these resolutions.

With regard to the U.S. aggression on Libya, the council announced its condemnation of this aggression that took place in April 1986 and was targeted against the civilians and aimed at the destruction of living quarters, hospitals and schools.

Regarding the British, Zionist and U.S. provocations against the Syrian Republic, the conference announced its condemnation of these provocations administered by Britain against the Syrian Arab Republic with the aim of weakening its steadfastness.

Regarding the ill-treatment to which Arab citizens are being subjected, at U.S. airports and ports, and the airports and ports of some other western states, the conference called on the states using obstructive measures against Arab citizens at their airports to review such measures and to abolish them.

PLO Leaders Try to Resolve Camps War, Unity Issue

'Arafat Makes Statement

JN021817 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has appealed to the Arab nation to make a move to save half a million Palestinians being liquidated in Lebanon. In a news statement published in Jeddah today, brother Abu 'Ammar said we should not keep silent over the continuous attacks on the Palestinian camps in Lebanon, which are simultaneously launched by the Amal gangs and the Zionist forces. He pointed out the Al-Rashidiyah camp has been subjected to Israeli air and naval bombardment several times as it was being subjected to siege and aggression by the Amal gangs.

Brother Abu 'Ammar affirmed that the Palestinians are not at all thinking of having a military presence in Lebanon. However, the PLO will not permit aggression against any Palestinian anywhere. He said the scheme the Amal Movement has been seeking to implement for 2 years is the deportation abroad of the Palestinians from the Lebanese camps. He explained that the organization does not wish to expand the conflict with Amal. However, he said, we are able to strike at all plots to liquidate the Palestinian people.

He noted that there are ongoing contacts with a number of Arab officials to hold an Arab summit on the fringes of the Islamic summit conference scheduled to be held in Kuwait in January to discuss the continuous aggression against the Arab nation prompted by the unjustifiable Arab disunity and differences.

Calls for Nonaligned Meeting

JN021925 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has called for an emergency meeting of the 9-member committee of the Nonaligned Movement to study the aggression against the Palestinian camps in Lebanon. The *Palestinian News Agency* said Brother Abu 'Ammar sent a message to Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, in his capacity as president of the Nonaligned Movement, and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi explaining the dangerous dimensions of the Palestinian camps war in Lebanon.

Receives Support From Pirzada

JN021913 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 2 Dec 86

["Text" of message from ICO Secretary General Sharifuddin Pirzada to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat — date not given]

[Text] I am still following, with extreme concern and sorrow, reports of the continuous attacks against our Palestinian brothers in their camps in the Lebanese arena with the direct participation of Zionist enemy warplanes.

While strongly condemning, on behalf of the ICO, the barbaric attacks carried out by the Zionist enemy and the Amal gangs against our Palestinian brothers in the camps, I send greetings of pride to the steadfast Palestinian heroes, who willingly sacrifice their souls and blood for the sake of defending their existence and right to life.

I have previously addressed several appeals to put an immediate and final end to the massacres committed against the Palestinians in Lebanon. As a result of the current situation in the camps, I addressed an urgent message to the UN secretary general asking him to use his authority to secure full protection for the Palestinian brothers in their camps in Lebanon.

I reaffirm once again to Your Excellency our principled commitment toward defending the Palestine question, as well as our unlimited support for the Palestinian people in their just and legitimate struggle under your wise leadership to regain their internationally recognized national rights and to establish an independent sovereign Palestinian state on their national soil.

Khalil al-Wazir Interviewed

LD021307 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1140 GMT 2 Dec 86

[All quotation marks as received]

[Text] Tunis, 2 Dec (KUNA) — Khalil al-Wazir, the deputy commander-in-chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, — Abu Jihad — said no meetings are expected between PLO chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Jordan's King Husayn.

In an interview with KUNA, Abu Jihad added while answering a question on what has been achieved by the recent Egyptian mediation between the organization and Jordan: "On this level I do not expect any new developments. The Jordanian attitude toward the PLO remains the same."

Abu Jihad pointed out that the PLO has a special file that it will present during the forthcoming Islamic summit in Kuwait," which includes grievances and issues of the Palestinian cause. It will attach importance to urgent issues, including the latest attacks directed against the Palestinian people inside and outside occupied territories; the aggressive acts of the Israeli extremists directed against the city of Jerusalem, the heart of the Islamic world; the attempted new occupation of this city under the flag of extremism, as we are witnessing the expulsion of Arab-Muslim residents from houses in the old city; the attack against the Al-'Aqsa Mosque; and the practise of confiscations in Jerusalem."

He said the topics to be discussed include the situation faced by the Palestinian camps in the Lebanese arena, which requires a serious stand to put an end to these repeated massacres, so the Palestinians will not be the victims of any battle. The political prospects of the Palestinian cause, as well as what is required by this stage, and the political deadlock it is experiencing, requires a coordination of Arab standpoints to win international support for our causes.

Replying to a question about the efforts made to unify the factions of the PLO, Abu Jihad said Al-Fatah and the leadership of the PLO during the past period has made intensive efforts to meet with resistance factions and, in this regard, good progress was made with the meeting of the comrades of the DFLP and the Communist Party. Agreement was reached in Prague on a method of common action toward making joint efforts to hold the 18th session of the PNC. The standpoint of the Palestinian National Salvation Front continues to reject any joint cooperation on the Palestinian arena at the time, when the leadership of the organization has sent out its continuous appeal calling on all to participate. And we raise the slogan of turning a new leaf and working anew together for the strengthening of the unity of the Palestinian resistance factions at this stage, to face the dangers and the difficult conditions to which our people are exposed, either in Palestine or in Lebanon.

He added: The last meeting we had with George Habash was in Prague and in Moscow, where discussion centered on how to draw up the points of our meeting with them after 3 years of estrangement that took place following the Tripoli incidents. The PFLP has its own political view as we have our own political view. We tried to arrive at common ground. We do not believe our views on political issues are the same, as there are differences clearly evident in the political stances. We have submitted to them a plan connected with the Amman agreement, and so far they have not approved it. But we have arrived at a number of points that we regard as a basis for joint cooperation; these involve mainly cooperation in the struggle inside the occupied territories. We believe the present circumstances in which our people, especially in Lebanon, are being subjected to attacks, dictate that we hold more meetings and carry out joint actions. As for the dialogue within the PNC, this issue is still under discussion.

Commenting on the recent events in the Palestinian camps, Abu Jihad said: We would like to reaffirm very stongly and very clearly without ambiguity that in Lebanon we ourselves are the target of aggression and Nabih Birri and Amal groups are continuing their attacks on our camps; the Rashidiyah camp has been under attack for the past 64 days. Attacks have not ceased and the blockade continues. Children's milk and medicines are being prevented from arriving at the camp. In addition there are the diseases that have broken out within the camp, such as cholera. No international conscience has been able to halt these aggressors from carrying out their acts. The crime is still going on right now. All international establishments are being prevented from entering the camp. Abu Jihad indicated that this attack has blown up the situation in the other areas, as we witnessed the new aggression being waged against Burj al-Barajnah and Shatilah camps, which have been exposed for more than 17 days to intensive and continuous attacks by the Amal Movement. It is known Amal does not act on its own opinion and its decisions are not made by itself. Our brothers in Damascus can help put an end to this aggression in a practical way.

Answering a question on what is being rumored about the deterioration of relations between the PLO and Tunisia, Abu Jihad said: "There is no rupture between us and our brothers in Tunisia. There were some passing problems that we have solved together with awareness and understanding within the ambit of joint brotherly relations. We have now undertaken a series of practical measures, as we have transferred all that is related to the military action, the military leadership and the fighters, and Tunisia has remained the headquarters of the political leadership and the political action of the organization. There was an agreement on a series of premises satisfactory to both parties, and which works towards the continuation of the strong relations, which continuity we are still seeking to safeguard within the spirit of brotherhood.

Hawatimah Makes Statement

JN021849 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 1 Dec 86 p 26

[Salam Musafir dispatch from Moscow]

[Text] DFLP Secretary General Nayif Hawatimah has decribed the ongoing battles in southern Lebanon between the Amal Movement and Palestinian fighters as the third dirty war launched by Amal against the camps. The first war was during Ramadan in June 1985, the second was during Ramadan in June 1986, and this is the third one. In an exclusive statement to *Al-Anba'* in Moscow, Hawatimah said: It has become clear to all Arabs that the claim that the war of annihilation against the Palestinians is aimed at 'Arafat's supporters, as Amal says, is false. Amal's objective is to disarm the Palestinian camps and push the Palestinians north, or even out of Lebanese territory, accoridng to the Zionist enemy plan on which it has been insisting since the May agreement; that is, military and security arrangements from Beirut to the international border to guarantee complete security for the Israeli enemy.

Hawatimah continued by saying: The enemy insists that Amal alone shoulder the responsibility for security according to Amal's slogan: No arms in the south except Amal arms. Hawatimah noted the 25 February meeting of the Israeli Government, in which it announced it would not allow the defeat of the Amal Movement at the hands of the Palestinian defenders of the camps. The Israeli Government also entrusted its war minister with providing Amal with all types of support and military backing to enable it carry out its mission.

Answering a question by *Al-Anba'* on the results of the ongoing Palestinian dialogue, Hawatimah, who is visiting Moscow within the framework of the current efforts to this effect, said: The Prague agreement constitutes the clear political and organizational basis on the road to unifying the PNC. He added: Today, we stand on the threshold of a new stage of dialogue to develop this agreement. Hawatimah announced that Algeria had expressed readiness to host an expanded Palestinian meeting of the three Palestinian factions that reached agreement in Prague. These factions are the Fatah movement, the DFLP, and the Palestinian Communist Party, in addition to mass Palestinian organizations and a number of national figures from Palestinian groupings in the camps of Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, and from the Arab Gulf states. Hawatimah expressed hope that the upcoming meeting, scheduled to take place at the end of November and postponed because of the incidents in southern Lebanon, would constitute a big step toward holding the comprehensive national Palestinian dialogue in preparation for the PNC session.

Hawatimah told *Al-Anba'* that during the dialogue with the PFLP in Prague and Moscow, Fatah expressed readiness to officially announce the abrogation of the Amman accord in light of the comprehensive national dialogue and before convening the PNC.

Al-Anba' learned from Palestinian sources in Moscow that Fatah stipulated that the PLO leadership announce the cancelation of the Amman accord 1 week before convening a new PNC session.

The PFLP has set two conditions for a Palestinian dialogue: the first is political, that is, the immediate and official announcement of the annulment of the Amman accord, and the second is organizational, calling for a review of the composition of the Palestinian factions and institutions.

Appeals to Arab Presidents

JN021432 Doha QNA in Arabic 1230 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Damascus, 2 Dec (QNA) — DFLP Secretary General Nayif Hawatimah sent cables today to a number of Arab heads of state on the ongoing battles between Amal and the Palestinian forces in Lebanon.

In his cables to Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, PDRY President Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, and YSP Secretary General Ali Salim al-Bid, Hawatimah appealed for intervention to put an end to these battles.

Khalaf Rejects Camps Agreement

JN022049 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic
1834 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Excerpts] Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], Fatah Central Committee member, has voiced his indignation and pain over the massacres and attemps to liquidate our people by the Amal gangs, the Syrian regime, and Israel, as the world marks the international day of solidarity with us. This came during a rally held by the Tunisian branch of the Palestinian Women's Federation on this occasion. [passage omitted]

Abu Iyad said: We would like to assert that the Amal gangs' plan in Lebanon goes beyond the Syrian plan. It is a plan directly connected with Israel because Amal is trying to prove to the Zionist enemy it is able to remove all the guns from southern Lebanon, in exchange for handing the border strip to it. Amal was angry at our people recently because it failed in its plan. Now it is acting blindly, using the most grotesque means to realize its end. It has started to impose sieges around the camps and is cooperating with [former Lebanese Forces leader] Elie Hubayqah in this.

Abu Iyad said: Here I would like to say we encountered supportive slogans after we left Beirut in 1982. And after the Sabra and Shatila massacres, we drew sympathy. Now Elie Hubayqah, who committed the Sabra and Shatila massacres, is leading the attack on the Sabra and Shatila camps. The atrocities being committed against our people in the camps are even worse than the atrocities being committed against our people in the occupied territory.

Abu Iyad said: From 1983 to 1986, we tried by all means to stave off the Syrian killing of our people. However, the Damascus gang refused to stop this, because the bill of Palestinian blood this gang is presenting to the United States is its only bargaining chip. Now the killing is continuing, but our people in the camps are heroically foiling Damascus' plans. After we occupied Maghdushah hill to silence the guns killing our people, those in Damascus tried to reach agreement to implement the plot to regain the hill and resume shelling the camps.

Abu Iyad expressed the PLO's rejection of this agreement and said: We are prepared to withdraw from Maghdushah provided it is handed over to the Lebanese nationalist forces and on condition that our camps are not shelled again. We say this because we do not want any piece of Lebanese territory.

In this context, Abu Iyad said: Had we wanted Lebanese territory, we would have accepted the old Syrian proposals to give us parts of Lebanese territory. We rejected this and told Syria we wanted only Palestine. We are ready to withdraw from Maghdushah and to hand it over to the forces of brother Mustafa Ma'ruf Sa'd [secretary general of the Nasirite Grouping]. However, they must lift the siege of Al-Rashidiyah camp.

Brother Abu Iyad praised the noble stands of the Lebanese nationalists, expressing the PLO's understanding of the statements being made against our people by certain sides, affirming that these statements are made while the specter of Syria's crimes is still fresh in their minds. We do not want to be responsible for their being exposed to new Syrian crimes, he said. Brother Abu Iyad expressed the Palestinian revolution's determination to continue its just struggle to regain our people's rights. He affirmed that the Palestinian rifle will not be dropped from Palestinian hands and our enemies' plots will remain mere illusions. [passage omitted]

Factions To Meet This Month

JN021720 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 1 Dec 86 p 26

[Text] Moscow — *Al-Anba'* — Commenting on meetings between a Fatah and a PFLP delegation in Moscow, Sa'id Abu 'Amarah, PLO charge d'affaires in Moscow, said the meetings opened a new, quiet, and fruitful dialogue between Fatah and the PFLP and constitute a prelude to further expanded and comprehensive meetings. In a statement to *Al-Anba'*, he said: An expanded meeting of Palestinian organizations such as Fatah, the DFLP, the Palestinian Communist Party, the Palestinian Liberation Front — The Abu al-'Abbas [Muhammad 'Abbas] group — and the Arab Liberation Front, in addition to popular organizations and independent nationalist figures, will take place in Algiers in the first half of December. Abu 'Amarah added that Palestinian-Soviet relations are improving, especially after the start of dialogue among the resistance groups, and announced that there is no obstacle to 'Arafat's visiting the Soviet Union.

PLO Radio Rebukes Arab 'Silence', 'Connivance'

JN021045 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic
1330 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] The evil plot is now exposed. The scandal of the tripartite Israeli-Syrian-Amal coordination is now clear. No doubt the alliance and coordination are aimed at wiping out the Palestinians and liquidating their struggle. They are aimed at serving the Zionist enemy and its security, which is based on expansion and aggression. What can we say now? What words can we use to formulate our bitter question? How can we prevent our memory from recording the ugly stabs in our body as a result of the Arab silence? Our body is full of treacherous wounds intended to kill our spirit of struggle, so the Zionist enemy could extend its security and promote its aggressive aims.

How can we avoid recording the stabs of our brothers? Where is the Arab position? Why this fearful silence? What is the deal signed at the expense of the Palestinian people, their national cause, their political entity and legitimate rights? What is this deal in which the Arab silence is being so effective? Has Arab connivance reached such an extent? Have they reached such a low state of submission to enemy terms and decisions? We should not ask these questions because this Arab position will remain as long as these regimes continue to exist. Why do we ask when the answer is very clear? Yet, our spirit does not accept this answer.

With the Palestinian spirit, we fight and remain steadfast, performing miracles. With our spirit and Palestinian determination we triumph. Our brothers' stands will only hurt our bodies. They will not harm our ideas and decisions. We will defend our revolutionary project with all the power of the Palestinian ideology to realize our future. We will realize our future with our free will and independent decisionmaking. We will realize it despite these regimes' defeatism, connivance, and retreat. We will realize it despite the enemy plots and no matter how many militias and regimes this enemy might employ to fight us. We will realize it. We will establish an independent, free Palestinian state under the PLO banner and leadership.

Let the plot and the plotters go to hell.

'Arafat Congratulates Sierra Leonean President

JN021026 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Eexecutive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has sent a cable of congratulations to Sierra Leonean President Joseph Momoh on the anniversary of his election as president of the friendly Republic of Sierra Leone. On this occasion, brother Abu 'Ammar expressed our people's thanks and appreciation for the consistent stands of the Sierra Leonean people and Government, which suport our people's just struggle, under the leadership of their sole legitimate representative, the PLO, to regain their national legitimate rights, including their right to repatriation, self- determination, and the establishment of an independent state on their homeland's soil.

Brother Abu 'Ammar added: The establishment of diplomatic representation between the PLO and your friendly government will further enhance Arab-African relations in general, and Palestinian-Sierra Leonean relations in particular. He stressed the PLO'S eagerness to promote and bolster these relations in the interest of the two peoples and world peace.

Receives CSSR Cable

JN021000 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has received a cable of support and solidarity from the CSSR Government on the international day of solidarity with the Palestinian people. In the cable, the CSSR Government expressed full support for the just struggle the Palestinian people are waging, under the leadership of the PLO to obtain their national, inalienable rights, as well as their right to self-determination and the establishment of an independent state on their homeland's soil. The CSSR Government also condemned the aggressive Zionist policy, backed by U.S. imperialism, adopted by the Zionist enemy against the Palestinian people.

Iraq Oil Minister Interviewed on OPEC Quotas

LD031027 Kuwait KUNA in English 0921 GMT 3 Dec 86

[by Shamel Khayri]

[Text] Kuwait, Dec 3 (KUNA) — Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim al-'Uraybi reiterated Wednesday his country's demand for an equal quota of oil production with that of Iran in any agreement that might be hammered out by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

In an interview with Kuwait News Agency, the minister who is currently in Kuwait to participate in the ministerial conference of the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC), demanded that the OPEC next conference in Geneva, to be held later this month, adopt a resolution cutting back output ceiling so as to bring the prices up to 18 dollar a barrel.

Without embarking on such a step, the Iraqi minister emphasized, realizing that objective (of 18 dollar a barrel) "would be something far from reality."

He expected that the OPEC ministers would extend the temporary agreement on production ceiling and quotas in case they failed to conclude "a scientific and objective formula on quotas and output ceiling."

The OPEC ministers, during their last conference, decided to extend the temporary agreement on production and quotas reached last August, for another two months, expiring by the end of December.

At present, the OPEC production ceiling is 17 million barrel a day. Iran's quota, according to this agreement, is 2.3 million barrel a day, and Iraq was given the right to produce the quantities it wants, though it is producing about 1.9 million barrel a day at present.

Al-'Uraybi stressed that if the oil prices are to be increased to the level of 18 dollar a barrel by the onset of next year, oil output ceiling should be slightly cut down to absorb the current surplus at the international markets.

He pointed out however, that if the production ceiling was decided to be cut down by 5 or 10 percent, the quota of all the OPEC members should also be decreased by the same level.

Al-'Uraybi called for basic changes on the pricing structure if the OPEC members want a price of 18 dollar a barrel to be an official fixed price.

KUWAIT

Ministry Rejects Iranian Charges on Airspace Use

LD021404 Kuwait KUNA in English 1327 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Kuwait, Dec 2 (KUNA) — Kuwait Tuesday flatly rejected Iranian accusations that it was using its air space and Kuwaiti positions for non-Kuwaiti military purposes, voicing regrets and astonishment at Tehran's circulation of such accusations.

A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry, was commenting on the Iranian news agency "IRNA" reports that Kuwait was offering its air space and Kuwaiti positions for non-Kuwaiti military purposes.

While expressing regret and astonishment at what the media in Iran have been repeating regarding these accusations, Kuwait firmly rejects these accusations and affirms, in the meantime, that it will not allow any quarters to use its air, land or territorial waters pointing out that all who frequent these sites are Kuwaitis.

Kuwait is convinced that the continuation of such an information campaign will offend good neighbourly relations between the two countries and will obstruct Kuwait's intent and professed interest in ending the destructive war between the two Muslim states and reaching a just settlement preserving the legitimate rights of the two parties, the spokesman told KUNA.

At the time Kuwait is looking forward to the day it hosts the Fifth Islamic Summit, it hopes to see the Islamic Republic of Iran respond to the sincere peaceful bids to end the Muslim bloodshed so that peace and stability in this area of the Islamic world prevails, the spokesman added.

Papers Doubt U.S. 'Credibility' on Arab Causes

LD030905 Kuwait KUNA in English 0818 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Text] Kuwait, Dec 3 (KUNA) — Two Kuwaiti dailies Wednesday doubted credibility of Washington toward Arab causes particularly the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Iraq-Iran war.

Al-Ray' al-Amm said that the U.S. has lost credibility as a neutral mediator in both disputes and pointed out "there is no need to send more envoys to the Middle East after it was proven that their mission was to cover up for secret bargaining and arms shipments."

American President Ronald Reagan has given the green light to his National Security Council to support Iranian warmachine, the daily asserted.

It charged that Washington had facilitated the supply of missiles to Tehran to strike at Baghdad and enabled it to attack Arab and Gulf tankers in the territorial and international waters of the Gulf.

The paper regretted the fact that the Arabs are acting without planning while the big cpuntries direct their stances toward global issues on basis of their own interests.

Another local paper said that credibility of Arab leaderships, should be the issue, and not that of the United States.

The Arab masses should rather concentrate on "credibility of their leaders in declaring their stances toward the Iranian-Israeli-American relations" daily *Al-Anba'* said.

It warned that the Arabs are awaiting such frank reactions and noted that "suddenly all have turned dumb or merely expressing dismay."

The paper charged that the U.S. and Israel were arming Iran not to boost (?U.S.) influence in Tehran "but rather to break the Arab power crystalized by Iraq."

They further wish "to drain Arab resources, kill biggest possible number of Arab fighters, maintain fate of Arab oil linked to closure of a strait and keep the Arab Gulf countries afraid from Iranian aggression to purchase more American arms and increase deposits in American banks," the daily concluded.

Bulgaria's Tanchev Arrives for Official Visit

LD022211 Kuwait KUNA in English 1922 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Kuwait, Dec 2 (KUNA) — Bulgarian First Vice President Petur Tanchev arrived in Kuwait tonight for an official four-day visit during which he will have cooperation talks with the country's top leaders.

Tanchev is scheduled to meet his highess the amir, His Highness Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah, and Deputy premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad.

Tanchev told KUNA in an arrival statement that during his visit here he will be seeking to strengthen cooperation ties between his country and Kuwait in economic, trade and cultural areas.

He noted that links between the two states have been growing steadily especially after the exchange of visits by his highness the amir and Bulgarian President Todor Zhivkov.

The Bulgarian official who arrived here from Damascus, said Kuwait has remarkably developed since he last visited here 18 years ago.

He added that Bulgarian companies involved in development projects in Kuwait were cementing cooperation between the two countries.

Tanchev was greeted at the airport by State Minister for Foreign Affairs Sa'ud Muhammad al-'Usaymi and the Bulgarian ambassador here as well as Foreign Ministry officials.

The Bulgarian vice president has been occupying the post since 1974 and is also secretary of the Bulgarian Farmers Union.

Gives Zhivkov Message to Amir

LD031021 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0934 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Text] Kuwait, 3 Dec (KUNA) — Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah received here today a written message from Bulgarian President Todor Zhivkov, the contents of which were not disclosed.

The visiting first deputy chairman of the State Council, Petur Tanchev, delivered the message to Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad in the presence of the Bulgarian ambassador here and of Sa'ud al-'Usaymi, the Kuwaiti minister of state for foreign affairs.

The Bulgarian guest met today with Shaykh al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, the heir apparent and chairman of the Council of Ministers.

PDRY

Abu Bakr Al-'Attas Receives Arab Officials

EA030938 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the People's Supreme Council Presidium, received separately in his office today, brothers 'Abd al-'A'ti al-'Ubaydi, chairman of the Arab Committee for Solidarity and Peace in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah; Sadiq (Bouqadayah), member of the permanent secretariat of the Council of Friendship and Cooperation with Peoples in the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria; and Dr Usam Rashid, member of Peace and Solidarity Council Presidium in the Republic of Iraq.

YSP Official Meets Soviet Solidarity Official

EA022146 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Brother Muhammad Sa'id 'Abdallah Muhsin, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the YSP Central Committee, met in his office this morning, Comrade (Belingrov), the secretary general of the Soviet Solidarity Committee. During the meeting, the two sides stressed that the meeting of Arab solidarity committees had acquired a special importance in view of the complex circumstances in which the Arab countries found themselves, and in view of the escalation of the aggressive, imperialist and expansionist onslaught hostile to the Arab liberation movement and to the interests of our Arab peoples and all the peace-loving peoples.

On his part, Comrade (Belingrov) stressed the need to continue developing and deepening the honest ties and relations of friendship and cooperation that link the two friendly countries and peoples, founded on the basis of revolutionary principles for joint struggle against imperialism, Zionism and reaction and the establishment of peace in the world.

QATAR

Amir Leaves Doha for Visit to Europe 3 Dec

JN030751 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0707 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Text] Doha, 3 Dec (WAKH) — Qatari Amir Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani left Doha this morning for Europe. He was seen off by Qatari Heir Apparent Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, the Qatari shaykhs, ministers, the police chief, and the Consultative Council speaker.

Eritrean Leader Arrives in Doha on Visit

JN251839 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1115 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Doha, 25 Nov (WAKH) — Osman Saleh Sabbe, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Eritrean Liberation Front-Unified Organization, arrived in Doha today on a visit to Qatar that will last several days, as part of a trip that will take him to a number of GCC states.

Sabbe paid tribute to Qatar's support for the Eritrean people's struggle to achieve their right to self-determination and liberation of their lands. He indicated that his visit is aimed at briefing officials on the developments of the Eritrean question and the situation in the Horn of Africa.

On relations between the ELF and Sudan, Sabbe told QNA that Eritrean-Sudanese relations are good. He indicated that Sudanese officials emphasized to him, during his recent meeting with them, that the car bomb explosion hatched by Ethiopia, in Kassala, had failed to sow division between the Sudanese and Eritreans or to disrupt security in Sudan.

He added that the front had decided to move all its offices and warehouses from Kassala and other border cities to secure areas inside liberated Eritrean territory to prevent Ethiopia from attempting once again to create incidents aimed at dividing the Sudanese and Eritreans, and to stop the Ethiopian infiltration into the front's ranks.

The Eritrean official stressed the importance of cooperation and coordination to confront the international strategies hostile to the Arab and Islamic civilization in the Horn of Africa.

Osman Saleh Sabbe expressed the front's readiness to hold direct negotiations with Ethiopia, without any preconditions and in the presence of a third party, to reach a just and peaceful solution that grants the Eritreans their right to self-determination. He added that once this solution is reached, concessions can be granted to Ethiopia concerning the Red Sea ports geographically located in Eritrea and which Ethiopia uses as an excuse to continue its occupation of Eritrea.

Sabbe indicated that the Eritrean revolution has managed to liberate more than 75 percent of the Eritrean territories and that what remains to be done now is for Arab, Muslim, and friendly states to launch an initiative to present the Eritrean question to the United Nations.

The Eritrean official expressed the hope that the ICO summit, scheduled to be held in Kuwait in January, will follow up on the third ICO summit resolution on supporting the Eritrean question; will raise the issue at the United Nations; and will grant the ELF observer status at the ICO.

Sabbe added that the current circumstances favor the Eritrean question. This has been made possible by the deterioration of the situation in Ethiopia; the growing importance of the role played by the opposition; the political asylum sought by more than 80Ethiopian political opposition figures in the United States and Europe; and the big change in the stands of many Western states and humanitarian organizations on Ethiopia, when they stopped relief aid to Ethiopia after it was proved that it was using this aid toward its war effort.

SAUDI ARABIA

Commentary Views Country's Defense Role, Progress

LD020040 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Husayn al-'Askari commentary]

[Text]Prince 'Abd al-Rahman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy minister of defense and aviation and [deputy] inspector general, has stressed that our Armed Forces are performing their duties of defending the homeland and the Arab and Islamic nation within the context of their pan-Arab commitments.

A vital embodiment of the role of our Armed Forces is crystalized in a comprehensive concept, the basis of which is to serve Islamic objectives and to defend what is sacred. This embodiment has led to constructive stands, through which many positive things have emerged toward the fulfillment of all desired objectives. In the framework of developing the abilities of this dear homeland's men and sons so they will be able to defend the homeland, as well as the Arab and Islamic nation, the wise leadership has not spared any effort in developing and building Saudi Arabia's ability to act.

The main principle of developing Saudi Arabia's capabilities is to serve the Islamic nation, to serve all that is held sacred and to establish a just and lasting peace, as stressed by Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, and reaffirmed yesterday by his deputy.

Nations are built on faith, security and stability. Saudi Arabia is based on the Islamic faith and has all the requirements of construction and development. On this basis, it has built the Armed Forces, forces that serve Islam and Muslims, and support the Arab nation in confronting the common enemy.

Within this framework comes the announcement by the commander of King Faysal Air Force College that modern aircraft will arrive at the college, as part of the deal signed recently between Saudi Arabia and Britain. The arrival of these aircraft assumes great significance in view of the regional and international political and strategic dimensions, and reflects Saudi Arabia's success in supplying the Armed Forces with everything new and modern. [words indistinct] to the forces of peace and stability in the region.

The development plans adopted by Saudi Arabia, and seen in the efforts by the Ministry of Defense and Aviation to have the Armed Forces reach the highest standards in training and equipment, represent the success of the firm, balanced and wise Saudi policy, and confirms that the country is moving along the right path,in accordance with decisions adopted of its own free will.

Planning Ministry Issues Report on Development

JN021504 Jeddah SAUDI GAZETTE in English 29 Nov p 3

[By Habib Shami]

[Text] Riyadh — Throughout the duration of the three development plans in the Kingdom, the value of goods and services, as measured by gross domestic product in current prices, rose sharply from SR17.4 billion in the year 1969-70 to SR524.7 billion in 1981-82. On account of the drastic fall in the output of the oil sector, the GDP began to drop in 1982 and reached SR339.2 billion in 1984.85, said a report by the Ministry of Planning. The report says that during the period, gross domestic fixed capital formation rose from SR2.6 billion in 1969-70 to SR122.3 billion in 1981-82 and dropped to SR96.6 billion in 1984-85. The share of investment in GDP rose from 15 percent in 1969-70 to 28.5 percent in 1984-85.

In the agriculture sector, there has been remarkable achievements. Wheat production increased from 26,000 tonnes in the year 1969-70 to over 2 million tonnes in 1984-85. The Kingdom is now self-sufficient in wheat and is exporting to other countries.

Production of dates grew at an average annual rate of 4.9 percent, thus recording an increase from 240.000 tonnes to 475,000 tonnes during the same period. Production of poultry meat rose from 7,000 tonnes in 1968-70 to 177,000 tonnes in 1984-85 meeting 70 percent of the local requirement. The production of eggs, which has not achieved self-sufficiency, rose from 5,000 tonnes to 132,000 tonnes over the 15 year span.

The report gave an account of the remarkable expansion in the large manufacturing industries. The number of operating factories rose from 207 in 1970 to 1,804 in 1985, with a growth record of 17.4 percent.

These factories are estimated to have an accumulated capital investment of SR56 billion and currently employ a total work force of about 118,000 persons. These factories produce varieties of merchandise, such as food and beverages, paper products, chemical products, basic metal and fabricated metal products and electrical equipment. According to the five-year plans, the economic development strategy is to develop basic industries producing petroleum-based products to be established in the two industrial complexes of Jubayl and Yanbu'.

The Royal Commission for Jubayl and Yanbu' is charged with the task of developing the two cities. It was established in 1975, to plan and implement the needed infrastructure. It carried out the job to the entire satisfaction of the task point, and both Jubayl and Yanbu' industrial cities have been ready to accommodate basic, secondary and support industries. By the year 2010, the report indicates, Jubayl is planned to accommodate a population of 290,000 people and Yanbu' to accommodate 150,000 people. On the electricity sector the report said it has witnessed a very rapid growth. It said almost every part of the Kingdom now has electricity, serving about 90 percent of the population. The total installed capacity grew at an average rate of 30.8 percent yearly from 418 megawatts (MW) in 1970 to over 17,000 MW in 1985. Electricity generation rose from 1.8 billion kilowatt-hours in 1970 to 44.5 billion kilowatt-hours in 1985. The number of subscribers went up from 216,000 in 1970 to over 1.8 million by the end of 1985.

UAE

Retaliation Promised for Any Further Attacks

JN022117 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi — UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan today said his country would retaliate if the attack carried out against the Abu al- Bukush oil field by an Iranian plane is repeated. WAM cited Shaykh Zayid as saying during a meeting with a Kuwaiti envoy in Abu Dhabi that the raid, which claimed eight dead, will not affect his country's self-confidence.

YAR

Satellite Cooperation Memo Signed With India

JN021855 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Our country and India signed a memorandum of understanding in New Delhi yesterday on bilateral cooperation in the sphere of satellites and telecommunications. Communications and Transport Minister Ahmad Muhammad al-Ansi signed the memorandum for our country while Indian Communications Minister Arjun Singh signed for his country. The two sides also stressed the importance of promoting bilateral cooperation in the sphere of technical and vocational training.

Egypt Reportedly Refused To Sell Arms to Iran

NC031132 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1030 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 3 Dec (MENA) — *Al-Ittihad*, published in Abu Dhabi, quotes Egyptian military sources as saying that Egypt twice refused to sell Egyptian arms to Iran through brokers and certain American companies that handle advertising and marketing of Egyptian weapons.

The paper also cites the same sources as saying that some arms brokers approached the Arab Industrialization Organization, expressing a desire to purchase and market some of the organization's products, such as ammunition and planes. The organization expressed its willingness to sell weapons provided that it knew the identity of the other party to the contract.

The sources also said that the Egyptian weapons sales representative refused to sell any arms when he discovered that they were to be exported to Iran.

The paper says that this took place in May 1985. In April 1986, arms brokers again requested the sale of arms to Iran, but Egypt refused.

Mubarak Answers Questions at News Conference

NC021331 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1302 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Cairo, 2 Dec (MENA) — In a statement to Egyptian and foreign reporters today, President Husni Mubarak has stated that he does not accept threats from anyone. Mubarak was responding to a question about a report published by the Israeli newspaper *Ma'ariv* 2 days ago to the effect that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir had sent a message to President Mubarak warning him of the serious effects of his statement regarding settlements on Egyptian-Israeli relations.

Mubarak said: "I am not the man who accepts warnings from Shamir or anyone else. If the newspaper *Ma'ariv* used the term warning, I do not accept any warnings." Muberak added: In my speech at the Egyptian People's Assembly I referred to Shamir's statement on the policy of Israeli expansion of settlements and said this would not lead to stable peace. If Shamir's response to my statement is a warning, which I doubt, I do not in any way accept warnings from anyone, no matter who.

On the extent of progress in the talks between the IMF and Egypt, Mubarak said: "The IMF members will meet in Washington this week. We cannot speculate about results, and I do not like to talk until I see real results before me."

Asked whether there are obstructions in the way of an agreement with the IMF, Mubarak said: "There are limits we cannot go beyond, because the income of the Egyptian people is limited, and we cannot burden them more than necessary. It is not my responsibility to ask the ordinary Egyptian citizen to bear more than he can." Mubarak added: "I have taken steps toward economic reform in Egypt, and I will not wait for the IMF to impose more burdens than can be borne. I absolutely cannot accept this, whatever the circumstances." Mubarak expressed his belief that the IMF members have shown understanding of this postion, adding: "I hope they will reach a decision in the near future."

Asked about the deteriorating situation in Lebanon, President Mubarak said: "I am very sad about the situation in Lebanon. The Lebanese problem is an offshoot of the Palestinian problem." Mubarak called on all parties involved in the deterioration in Lebanon to understand the situation and stay away from Lebanon, because the dangers will affect not only Lebanon but all its neighbors and participants. Mubarak said: "I pray to God that all parties will understand the situation and fully appreciate its ramifications, and I affirm that we as Arabs can overcome crises."

Responding to a question by an American reporter on progress toward signing a trade protocol with the Soviet Union and its significance for Egyptian-Soviet relations, Mubarak said: "It would have been better had the question dealt with what the United States has done so far regarding the problem of interest rates on arms sales."

Asked if he has received an answer to this, Mubarak said: "I am waiting for an answer from the United States."

Asked if he has received specific information from the United States on the reduction of the 14-percent interest rate, Mubarak said: "I have heard about this, but I will not be sure of it until I receive an official response."

Asked what had been achieved by the recent visit to the United States by Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, President Mubarak said: "All I have just said pertains to the high interest rate on debts. I have discussed this subject with the United States several times since 1982. I believe it is now very important to make a decision on this issue."

Mubarak added: I have heard that decisions on this issue will be made soon. I am waiting to see something official.

Asked about the effect on U.S.-Egyptian relations of the shipment of U.S. arms to Iran through Israel, President Mubarak said: I said before that there is a need for swift and effective measures by the United States, because its credibility in the Middle East has collapsed [tada'at]. Therefore, it is important that a decision be made in this regard. I cannot tell you what this measure should be; the United States knows quite well how to maintain its credibility in this region.

Responding to a question on the obstacles to the peace process, President Mubarak said: We are now seeking to arrive at a formula for Palestinian representation at an international peace conference through the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement. We have not yet established a specific concept for this representation.

Mubarak noted that there is another point [not further specified] pertaining to the international conference. This conference needs preparation and coordination to ensure that all the parties concerned will be able to sit down at the negotiating table together. These are the main points we are trying to resolve, he added. We are currently working on the issue of Palestinian representation.

I have received some comments on this issue from Israeli Prime Minister Shamir and Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres. His Majesty King Husayn was also here in Cairo, and we discussed this topic. Mubarak continued: We are waiting for PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to come to Cairo at any time to discuss the peace efforts to be made during the next stage. If we fail to maintain the momentum of the peace process, then we will lose everything.

When asked about his forthcoming visit to France and whether it is connected with the current talks between Egypt and the IMF, Mubarak said that this visit had been scheduled 7 or 8 months ago. At that time, the economic situation was not deteriorating from a fall in the oil prices and other factors. Therefore, this visit has nothing to do with events that have since occurred. Naturally, however, it is possible that my talks with French President Mitterrand and Prime Minister Chirac may deal with some of these issues.

Replying to a question about the role of the NDP in the coming period, Mubarak affirmed: I call on all Egyptian parties to help increase production through their programs and their activities with the man in the street. We have an economic problem, and we must all cooperate to push the wheel of production forward and thereby overcome the obstacles we are now encountering.

When asked about the date for Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Cairo, President Mubarak said that he will welcome 'Arafat at any time he deems appropriate. He may come to Cairo very soon, the president added.

Replying to another question on the statement made by Israeli Minister of State Ari'el Sharon demanding that Egypt close its PLO offices in return for solving the Tabah problem, President Mubarak affirmed: Let Sharon say what he wants. Egypt, however, will make the decisions that suit it.

Asked what would happen to the Egyptian economy should the talks between Egypt and the IMF fail, President Mubarak said that this is not a question of life and death. There are countries, such as Tanzania, that have not accepted IMF decisions. However, I believe that the IMF understands our economic conditions very well.

Asked about the IMF request that subsidies be lifted, Mubarak responded: How can we lift subsidies? Even the United States itself gives subsidies. This is not something created in Egypt. The United States gives monthly subsidies to its poor. We have citizens with limited income, Mubarak added. The problem in Egypt is that the subsidies go to everyone. We are doing our utmost to see that subsidies are only given to those who are entitled to them.

When asked if there was a chance that an agreement with the IMF would be reached next year, Mubarak replied: We hope so, God willing.

Asked if next year will be a year for peace talks, Mubarak stated: I hope that this next year will be the year of negotiations for peace. The later we are, the more complicated things will become.

Responding to a question about what would happen if the United States does not give a satisfactory response to Egypt's request that the interest rates on its debts be reduced, President Mubarak said: I believe the United States understands the situation. I believe they are convinced that the 14 percent interest rate on military aid is considered to be high, particularly in light of the fact that world interest rates are normally about 7 percent. Currently they are 6 percent. He added: This is why I believe that the U.S. Administration and Congress are convinced that at least 50 percent of the interest on debts to the United States must be written off.

'Abd al-Majid Meets With Visiting U.S. Official

NC021509 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Excerpt] Cairo, 2 Dec (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today met with Ambassador Wat Cluverius, adviser to the U.S. assistant secretary of state for Middle East affairs [title as received]. The American official is currently on a visit to Egypt.

The meeting was also attended by U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Frank Wisner.

During their meeting, the two men reviewed developments in the Middle East situation, as well as ways to give impetus to efforts to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary at the Foreign Ministry and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, also met with Ambassador Wat Cluverius today. Their 90-minute meeting was attended by U.S. Ambassador Frank Wisner. [passage omitted]

'Abd al-Majid Confers With Soviet Ambassador

JN022002 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 1 Dec 86 p 6

[Muhammad Isma'il dispatch]

[Text] Soviet Ambassador in Cairo Gennadiy Zhuravlev has expressed hope that the ongoing Egyptian-Soviet economic talks will have positive results to reinforce sociopolitical relations. This came during a meeting yesterday with Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. The Soviet ambassador informed Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid of the results of the recent talks between Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

Parties Cable Al-Asad, Al-Qadhdhafi on Camps War

NC020906 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0745 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Cairo, 2 Dec (MENA) — The leaders of the five Egyptian opposition parties have sent a cable to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, Libyan Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, and Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi. The cable states that every drop of Palestinian blood shed by Arab hands represents an unforgivable crime by its perpetrators and serves the enemies of the Arab homeland and the forces of Zionist aggression.

Therefore, the cable says, let the bloody attack on the camps stop immediately, adding that the five parties plan to hold an open session to investigate this crime. The cable was signed by the leaders of the Al-Wafd, Labor, NPUG, Liberal, and Al-Ummah Parties. Copies were sent to Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami; Nabih Birri, leader of the Shi'ite Amal Movement; Walid Junblatt, leader of the Druze; and George Hawi, one of the Nationalist Front leaders in Lebanon.

Socialist African Conference Concludes 2 Dec

NC022134 Cairo MENA in English 1945 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Cairo, Dec 2 (MENA) — The Socialist Inter-African Conference stressed at its final session here today the importance of convening an international Middle East peace conference under the auspices of the United Nations and with the participation of the U.N. Security Council five member-states and the concerned parties including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The conference also affirmed its full support to the heroic struggle of the Palestinian people under the PLO leadership to restore their legitimate rights and establish an independent national state on their lands.

The conference in its recommendations released today, called upon the U.N. to take necessary measures to safeguard Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon.

The conference also voiced full support for liberation movements in Africa against racism and racial discrimination, and called for immediate and unconditional release of political detainees in South Africa.

The conference further called for the independence of Namibia and for finding a just solution to the dispute in the African Horn.

The conference sent an urgent appeal to Spain to peacefully solve the problem of the Moroccan cities and start a dialogue with Morocco.

The final session was chaired by former Senegalese President Leopold Senghor, Deputy Premier and Agriculture Minister Dr. Yusuf Wali and State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr. Butrus Ghali.

Mubarak Receives Delegation

NC021134 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1100 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Cairo, 2 Dec (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak received at the Al-Qubbah Presidential Palace this afternoon a delegation representing the League of African Socialist Parties, led by former Senegalese President Leopold Senghor. The meeting was also attended by Dr Yusuf Wali, deputy prime minister, minister of agriculture, and NDP secretary general, and by Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs.

Wafd Party Leader Comments on Mubarak Speech

PM021005 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 20 Nov 86 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Siraj al-Din Talks to *Al-Wafd* about President Mubarak's Speech"]

[Text] Wafd Party leader Fu'ad Siraj al-Din has affirmed that President Husni Mubarak's speech at the opening of the new parliamentary session was comprehensive, contained some positive points, and tackled all aspects of life in Egypt. He made specific reference to the president's description of the country as being in a serious stage, impossible to handle without hard work and national commitment.

In reply to a question by *Al-Wafd* regarding the party's opinion of the president's latest speech, Siraj al-Din said that the party agrees with the president's portrayal of the country's situation. The Wafd Party, he said, has frequently supported and today reaffirms its support for what the president said in his speech on foreign and Arab policies.

Apart from that, the Wafd Party leader said, some points require a pause, such as the president's call for cooperation among all forces to overcome the severe economic crisis. Siraj al-Din emphasized that the only way out of the economic crisis is economic stability, which requires political stability. Political stability, he added, can be achieved only on the basis of true and complete democracy, which, as is well known, means that the people should rule themselves through representatives elected by them willingly and freely in honest elections, and on the basis of a democratic constitution that makes the nation the source of all power. This, Siraj al-Din added, is not a new view because it is what the Wafd Party believes and has been the party's mission since its foundation; it was also a part of the party's 1978 program and was reaffirmed in 1984. It is a belief the Wafd Party will never abandon.

Siraj al-Din added: I do not think that the Wafd Party's propagation of that belief should be seen as incitement or as an attack on legitimate state insitutions because, in doing so, the party expresses a public demand for which the nation has been pressing for over 100 years. It is a fact that Egypt was the third country to introduce democratic and parliamentary rule.

In reply to an *Al-Wafd* question about his opinion of recent press calls for dialogue between the opposition and the government, Siraj al-Din said: We do not reject such a dialogue, provided it is based on sound democratic foundations. It was regrettable that the former NDP governments did not believe in such a dialogue, had no regard for the opposition, and regarded party practices as personal feuds. Furthermore, the democractic process in the present People's Assembly, where the NDP has a majority, seems to be moving along those lines.

The Wafd Party leader added: I hope the new government will not do the same because the opposition, as President Mubarak rightly said, is an essential party of democracy.

Al-Wafd told Siraj al-Din: Some people are noticeably trying to drive a wedge between the opposition and the presidency. What is your opinion?

His reply was that, very regrettably, this was true and that the latest example was what Interior Minister Zaki Badr said in a speech he made at Alexandria University last month, reported by *Al-Wafd* in previous editions. What the interior minister said verbatim was: "The opposition curses the president, preaches hate against him, and incites people against him."

The Wafd Party leader said that the interior minister's allegations are pure unfounded fabrications.

Another example of such intrigues and attempts to sow division is the charge made by President Mubarak in his speech about the opposition press, accusing it of resorting to sensationalism and lies.

'Ali Lutfi on Resignation, Press Freedom

JN021845 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic
1 Dec 86 pp 22, 23

[Interview with Dr 'Ali Lutfi, former prime minister and current chairman of the Consultative Council, by Sawsan Abu Husayn in Cairo — date not given]

[Excerpts][Abu Husayn] *Al-Anba'* can cite more than one reason for your resignation mentioned by the opposition papers and the Arab and foreign press, among which are the following:

1. A report by the economic group on reducing spending on arms and the presidency.

2. The negotiations with the IMF and the rescheduling of debts.

3. The absence of harmony among your cabinet ministers.

4. Your stand on investment companies.

5. The detrimental influence of businessmen on economic decisions.

6. The increase of indebtedness by approximately 9.2 billion pounds.

[Lutfi] All the reasons you have mentioned are analytical and mere conjecture; they indicate a lack of real knowledge of the facts. What the oppostiion claims cannot be substantiated. The cabinet I chaired belived in the importance of developing our Armed Forces to upgrade their superiority in terms of arms and training. This is because this issue deals with our strategic and national security. As for the expenditures of the presidency, they are not worth mentioning when compared with the state's public expenditures. Everyone knows President Mubarak is opposed to any manifestations of luxury.

As for the question of negotiations with the IMF, there is no negotiation crisis. On the contrary, differences have been narrowed to a large extent and I expect the conclusion of an agreement with the IMF with respect to our economic, social, and political interests. The IMF never asked us to issue any declaration of intent, toward it or the World Bank, in which the government would pledge to implement specific demands. My resignation was not motivated by my refusal to assume responsibility for the consequences that accepting the World Bank's demands would entail. I also never proposed that we go to the Paris Club to reschedule Egypt's debts and their installments, because creditor countries prefer we do not address the Paris Club before reaching an agreement with the IMF.

As for what has been said about the absence of harmony among cabinet ministers, I would like to say that harmony existed among the ministers, though there were some differences in viewpoints that did not disrupt the spirit of teamwork. [passage omitted]

[Abu Husayn] In your new capacity as chairman of the Consultative Council and of the Supreme Press Council, you told the *Mayu* weekly newspaper, the organ of the Egyptian ruling party, that measures will be taken in the future to organize journalism and the press. Does this mean a restriction on freedom of the press and of the parties, particularly since much was recently said about violations by the opposition press? What will you do to check these violations and what is your concept of freedom of the press?

[Lutfi] Concern over the affairs of the press and its practices is an indivisible part of the commitment to the principle of freedom of the press. A free press has the vital role of enlightening the masses about our problems and national objectives. It is one of the most important channels through which the government's plans and policies are communicated to the masses, as well as a channel for communicating to the government the masses' aspirations and hopes. The freer the press, the more important is its role, and this calls for the regulation of its activities. This is what I meant when I said the press msut be organized.

There will be no restriction on the freedom of the press; otherwise, it would lose its important role. As for violations by some opposition papers, I hope they will change their behavior because this will not benefit them. On the contrary, it will harm their reputation and affect their credibility in the eyes of the public. I would also like to say that we are not with those who advocate the confiscation of newspapers. We never think about taking such a course. [passage omitted]

Paper Comments on Economic Problems, IMF

NC030510 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2205 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Cairo, 2 Dec (MENA) — The *Al-Jumhuriyah* newspaper has reviewed President Husni Mubarak's reaffirmation that Egypt has begun steps toward economic reform. He said Egypt will not wait for the IMF to impose additional burdens, which would be more than the people could bear and which would never be accepted regardless of the conditions.

In the editorial in its Wednesday issue, the paper affirms that the continuation of Egypt's stability means that it is necessary to drive economic and social development continuously forward. The role of the IMF in this respect must be positive. It should stand by a country like Egypt to ensure that it will be able to overcome the oppressive economic crisis that now burdens the people.

Al-Jumhuriyah notes: The president was explicit in his assertions that there are limits to which this crisis can be allowed to go. The Egyptian people are willing to shoulder their responsibility in construction, development, and increased production. The imposition of additional hardships on these people, however, might lead to numerous negative results. The very least that could happen would be the demoralization of the work force and the frustration of the workers' activity, potential, and struggle for construction.

Despite all the problems of development and all the hurdles that Egypt must face, the paper stresses, our country remains strong in its historical capability to overcome any crisis and to adopt stands that place the Egyptian people's interests above all other considerations.

Commentary Views Iranian Threats to Gulf States

NC022240 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1240 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Ahmad al-Qasir commentary: "Tehran Rulers Disclose Their Aggressive Intentions Against the Arab Nation"]

[Text] Just 1 day after the outright threats made by Iranian Persident 'Ali Khamene'i against the Gulf states, the Tehran *Times* newspaper ran on its front page a direct threat that Iran will pound any Arab capital with surface-to-surface missiles if it is proved that it assisted Iraq in its recent air raid on Larak Island at the mouth of Gulf. This has exposed the true goal of the ruling regime in Tehran to continue the Gulf war. In other words, the issue is no longer just Iran's expansionist ambitions with regard to Arab Iraq. It now covets the entire Arab Gulf region.

This is why it was logical for the ayatollahs, who control the Iranian people's fate, to reject all international mediation efforts and the peace calls made by Iraq to end the bloodshed in the Gulf. The truth of this assumption is indicated by the fact that these ayatollahs, who use religion as a mask, have permitted themselves to break all taboos and to cooperate with the devil at any price to achieve their expansionist ambitions and to satiate their latent grudge against the Arab nation.

Some people might say that these threats are merely part of the psychological warfare being waged against Iraq and the Gulf states in order to intimidate them. To such remarks we simply reply that this issue is much graver than that. These threats must be taken seriously. Have the Arabs forgotten the recent air raid on the Abu Al-Bukhush oil field of the UAE a few days ago? Have they forgotten the heavy material losses and casualties which resulted from this raid? Have they forgotten the earlier threats made to Kuwait and Saudi Arabia?

The current danger posed to Arabs by Iran far outweighs any other threatening the Arab nation. It would not be an exaggeration to say that there is an undeclared alliance between Iran and those who are seeking to expand at the expense of the Arab nation. Arab Egypt has realized this painful fact for a long time. It has warned its Arab brothers against continuing to assume a spectator role vis-a-vis events in this sensitive region. Egypt has repeatedly asserted that any threat to Gulf security would be considered a direct threat to Egypt's security. Arab Egypt underlines its support for fraternal Iraq in the defense of its existence and independence in the face of the Persian danger disguised by a veil of religion. It also calls on the Arab brothers to take quick action to confront the blatant Iranian threats against the Gulf countries. Arabs should not be content with statements of denunciation and condemnation or with reliance on international mediation efforts. They must take a unified and collective Arab stand in which every country shoulders its responsibility to confront a danger that threatens them all. Such a stand would also expose the excesses exercised by the rulers in Damascus and Libya against their Arab nation, excesses represented by their supply of rockets to the Tehran rulers to strike at Iraqi cities.

In light of these facts, we can understand President Husni Mubarak's recent call to the Arab countries to shoulder their responsibility in accordance with the joint Arab defense agreement.

Air Force Commander Reacts to Iranian 'Threats'

JN021455 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1350 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Dec (INA) — Lieutenant General Hamid Sha'ban, commander of the Iraqi Air Force and Air Defense, strongly warned the Iranian rulers against embarking on any aggression against any Arab Gulf state. He said: Such aggression will be considered aggression against Iraq and we will respond to it with the strength that the Iranian enemy knows more about than anyone else.

The warning of the commander of the Air Force and Air Defense came in response to threats launched by the Iranian regime leaders against Arab Gulf states on the pretext of supplying Iraqi aircraft with services during the recent bombardment of the Iranian island, Larak.

In a statement to INA today, Lt Gen Hamid Sha'ban affirmed that Iraqi planes are not in need of refueling or of landing strips to carry out their misson, particularly since the attacks carried out by Iraqi aircraft inside Iran show their ability to reach the farthest point inside Iran. He added that the Iranian regime's leaders will see this by themselves in the future.

The Iraqi commander said: If the Iranian leaders have any intelligence they will know that Iraq's aircraft do not need any services and if they are refueled in the air they can reach the farthest point on the earth.

Sha'ban said the threats launched by the Iranian-Zionist regime came after the successful blows dealt by the gigantic Air Force. He said: We are accustommed to these statements and threats by the Iranian regime. The Iranian regime aims at covering up the recent scandal, which has exposed the arms relations between the Iranian and Zionist regimes as well as the coordination with the U.S. Administration.

Armed Forces Command Issues Communique No 2,466

JN021719 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1700 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Communique No 2,466 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 2 December 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassioante. Our valiant forces inflicted more losses on the aggressors during their combat activities for last night and today as follows:

1. In the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah, our artillery and weapons dealt effective blows to the enemy, destroying two enemy machine guns, one vehicle, one water truck, and six infantry positions; damaging three various vehicles; and killing two enemy solidiers.

2. Seven enemy personnel were killed and four rifles were seized in the I Army Corps northern sector.

3. In the II Army Corps central sector, two enemy personnel were killed and three infantry positions and one observation post were destroyed.

4. In the VII Army Corps sector, units from our artillery and tanks dealt consecutive blows to enemy gun emplacements and positions, inflicting severe losses, paralyzing vehicles' movement, and silencing a number of enemy sources of fires.

5. The rancorous enemy shelled the city of Al-'Uzayr with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 2 December 1986

Government Supports Call for Arab League Meeting

JN020833 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
0800 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Iraq has informed the Arab League General Secretariat of its support for the PLO's request to hold an emergency meeting on the foreign minister level to discuss the agent Amal gangs' aggressions against the Palestinian camps in Lebanon.

In a statement to an INA correspondent in Tunis, Iraq's permanent Arab League representative said Iraq's support for the PLO's request is based on its awareness of the seriousness of the agent Amal gangs' plotting against the Palestinian camps in Lebanon, in cooperation with the Syrian regime to implement a Zionist scheme against the entire Palestinian existence.

Saddam Husayn Congratulates UAE President

JN021807 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1300 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] President Saddam Husayn has sent a congratulatory cable to Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, UAE president, on his country's national day. Following is the text of the cable:

His Highness Brother Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE. On the occasion of UAE'S national day, it pleases me to send to Your Highness, on behalf of Iraq and in my own name, our heartfelt greetings wishing you good health and happiness, the fraternal UAE people further progress, and the existing relations of fraternity and cooperation between our states continuous development in the interest of our Arab nation.

[Signed] Your Brother Saddam Husayn

Ramadan Confers With Arab Envoys in Prague

JN291453 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1300 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, received the Arab ambassadors to the CSSR in Prague last night. He discussed the nature of his visit to the CSSR and his talks with CSSR President Gustav Husak and Premier Lubomir Strougal, stressing that the talks were important and cordial, and reflected the two countries' desire to promote relations in various areas. Ramadan also reviewed the Iraq- Iran war and the Iranian regime's aggression and its shelling of civilian inhabitants — acts that prove that regime's bankruptcy and its attempts to conceal its failure and scandals as well as its suspected ties with the Zionist entity against Iraq and the Arab nation — stressing Iraq's capability to retaliate. He added that all signs affirm that the Iranian regime can no longer assume the burden of the losses inflicted on its economic installations by the Iraqi Air Force.

Ramadan also said Iraq's steadfastness over the past 6 years against the Iranian regime has affirmed the Arabs' capability to defend their sovereignty and cause, as well as to eliminate all of the treacherous plots of some of the Arab regimes represented by the agent regimes of Hafiz al-Asad and al-Qadhdhafi. He pointed to the expansion of Iraq's international relations in the economic field, as it entered the seventh year of its war, and stressed that these relations reassure other countries about Iraq's economic future and its concern over bringing peace to the region.

The meeting was attended by Industry and Minerals Minister Subhi Yasin, Usamah al-Zahhawi, Foreign Ministry Under Secretary, and the Iraqi ambassador in Prague. Samih 'Abd al-Fattah, doyen of the Arab diplomatic mission in Prague, expressed his wishes of progress and victory for Iraq, referring to the heroic steadfastness of the Iraqi people which is considered a pride for the Arabs.

'Izzat Ibrahim, Delegation Leave for Bangladesh

JN021340 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1250 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Dec (INA) — RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim left for Dacca this morning, leading an official delegation on a visit of several days to Bangladesh. The RCC vice chairman and the accompanying delegation will hold talks there aimed at developing relations of cooperation between Iraq and Bangladesh in various fields.

The delegation accompanying the RCC vice chairman comprises Irrigation Minister 'Abd al-Wahhab Mahmud, Awqaf and Religious Affairs Minister 'Abdallah Fadil, and Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Wassam al-Zahawi.

Foreign Ministers Meeting on PLO Camps Endorsed

JN021221 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] The Foreign Ministry today informed the Arab League General Secretariat that Jordan agrees to the convening of an extraordinary meeting of the Arab Foreign Ministers Council to discuss the fighting in the Palestinian camps in Lebanon at the urgent request of the PLO.

The Foreign Ministry also informed the Arab League General Secretariat that Jordan is prepared to attend the meeting on the date fixed by the Secretariat.

Egyptian Tourism Minister Arrives 1 Dec

JN011105 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Amman — Dr Fu'ad Sultan, Egyptian minister of tourism and civil aviation, arrived in Amman this morning leading a delegation comprising 21 members dealing with tourist activities in the public and private sectors, on an official 5-day visit to Jordan. During the visit Dr Sultan will hold talks with Muhammad al-Khatib, minister of information, culture, tourism, and antiquities, on ways to promote bilateral cooperation in the field of tourism and drawing up plans for marketing tourism in implementation of the tourist agreement between the two countries.

Dr Sultan stated that his visit to Jordan falls within the framework of constant coordination between the two countries to promote economic, tourist and cultural cooperation, and within the series of continuous visits and meetings to consolidate joint cooperation whose foundations were laid by His Majesty King Husayn and His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak to serve the interests of the two fraternal countries.

Received by Prime Minister

JN021345 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i received in his office this morning Dr Fu'ad Sultan, Egyptian minister of tourism and civil aviation, in the presence of Muhammad al-Khatib, minister of information, culture, tourism, and antiquities.

During the meeting, they discussed ways to develop and strengthen fraternal relations, especially in the tourism field, and the establishment of joint tourism projects to benefit the two countries' peoples. The meeting was attended by the Egyptian ambassador in Amman.

King Receives Egyptian Minister, Soviet General

JN021704 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn received Dr Fu'ad Sultan, Egyptian minister of tourism and civil aviation, at the Royal Hashemite Court today. The meeting was attended by the minister of information, cultural, antiquities, and tourism, and the Egyptian ambassador in Amman.

His Majesty King Husayn also received General Chesnokov, commander in chief of the Soviet Air Defense Forces [title as heard] and head of the Soviet military delegation currently visiting Jordan at the Royal Hashemite Court today. The meeting was attended by Staff General Al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and the Soviet ambassador in Amman.

King Husayn Receives Richard Armitage 2 Dec

JN021303 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 2 Dec 86 p 1

[Text] Amman, (PETRA) — King Husayn received U.S. Assistant Defense Secretary Richard Armitage at the Royal Hashemite Court yesterday.

The chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, the commander in chief of the armed forces, and the U.S. ambassador in Amman attended.

Armitage Departs

JN021304 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] U.S. Assistant Defense Secretary Richard Armitage and the delegation accompanying him, left Amman tdoay at the end of a 4-day official visit to Jordan during which he met with King Husayn and senior officials.

Armitage was seen off at Amman Military airport by General Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Armed Forces; the chief of staff and his aides; the commander of the Air Force; the U.S. ambassador in Amman; U.S. Embassy staff; and the Jrodanian military attache in Washington.

Planning Minister Assesses West Bank Development

JN020925 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Planning Minister Dr Tahir Kan'an held an open dialogue with Yarmuk University students this evening. During the dialogue, he answered students' questions on the occupied territories development program and its impact on supporting the steadfastness of citizens in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

At the beginning of the meeting, Dr Kan'an reviewed the economic situation in the occupied territories. He reviewed the areas of development in support of citizens' steadfastness in the occupied territories. Dr Kan'an hailed the citizens' steadfastness in the occupied territories as well as their adherence to their land and Arab identity despite the various pressures exerted by the Israeli authorities against them. He said the basic objective of the development program is to confront the plans aimed at Judaizing the land and evicting the citizens from their homeland. He pointed out that the program also aims to provide new job opportunities to citizens in the West Bank and Gaza Strip to entrench them on their land, preserve the Arab identity of the occupied territories, and expand production in the agricultural and industrial fields.

JORDAN TIMES: Gaza Produce Permitted Transit

JN301613 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 30 Nov p 3

[Text] Amman (PETRA) — All agricultural produce from the occupied Gaza Strip bound for export is allowed to pass via Jordan, Minister of Agriculture Marwan al-Humud announced on Saturday. The entry dates for citrus fruits and saplings were also set by the minister.

Mr Al-Humud's decision is in line with Jordan's stand, endorsed by the Council of Arab Economic Unity in September, to open up Arab markets for produce from the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

On Saturday, Mr Al-Humud also met with the president and members of the Jordanian veterinary association and discussed ways to create job opportunities for vet specialists.

The meeting also discussed veterinary services in the Kingdom and the situation of vets in the occupied West Bank. Nine new vets were also sworn in as member of the association.

Islamic Resistance Attacks Israeli Positions

NC021231 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] The Islamic Resistance issued the following statement today:

On Tuesday morning, 2 December 1986, a group of Islamic Resistance strugglers carried out a new kind of daring operation against two positions held by Israeli and Lahd Army personnel in Lucy and Al-Surayri in Western al-Biqa'. The Islamic Resistance strugglers razed the positions to the ground with machine gun and rocket fire, leaving 15 dead and well over 20 others wounded among the Israeli enemy and agent Lahd Army personnel. The strugglers cleared the two positions, chanting: God is great, Islam will triumph, death to Israel and its agents. The group returned safely to base. The Islamic strugglers seized an armored personnel carrier, three 12.7-mm machine guns, and a quantity of communications equipment and hardware.

This operation was undertaken in response to statements made by Zionist enemy leaders, particularly Peres, who gloats over the infighting between Muslims in and around the camps. We promise our noble martyrs that the Islamic resistance will continue to fight the enemy until Israel is completely wiped out. This operation was a practical reply to the seditious war in the camps.

Israelis Search Al-Biqa'

NC031203 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1125 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Text] According to a security report received from Western al-Biqa' at midday, Zionist helicopters were involved in an extensive search operation between 1000 and 1215 today. The Amal Movement Military Bureau's Fifth Section also announced that the Israelis and their agents conducted a thorough search of Western Al-Biqa' following yesterday's heroic action by the fighters of the Islamic resistance. In addition, Zionist helicopters have been raking Mashgharah since 1000, while enemy tanks deployed on the surrounding hills have shelled a number of villages in the area.

The occupation forces have been attempting to advance toward Maydun and 'Ayn al-Sim since 1100 today, under cover of a heavy artillery barrage. They were also backed by helicopters, which raked the region for more than 2 hours, bringing the two towns under fire.

The same information indicates that resistance fighters and local residents have engaged the Zionist occupation forces.

Israeli Tanks Advance in South

JN031252 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1225 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Text] Before ending this newscast, we have received an urgent report citing Lebanese military sources in southern Lebanon saying a large Israeli military force consisting of not less than 10 heavy tanks has advanced today from the security strip in the border area toward the areas of 'Ayn al-Tinah and Al-Dallafah bridge south of the town of Mashgharah. In addition, Israel earlier shelled with heavy artillery several Lebanese villages near the security strip area, killing 1 civilian and wounding 10 others.

This Israeli military action comes after the successful operation the Islamic Resistance carried out in southern Lebanon yesterday against the positions of the South Lebanese Army militias, which are Israel's allies in the security strip area.

SSNP, Hizballah Clash at Mashgharah Parade

NC021655 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1530 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] There was a parade in the Suhmur, Yuhmur, and Mashgharah townships today during which an armored personnel carrier seized from the ememy was displayed. At this parade, our correspondent reports, a clash broke out between Hizballah men and members of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party [SSNP] in Mashgharah.

According to Hizballah sources, someone from the SSNP fired a shell at the personnel carrier when it arrived in Mashgharah. The vehicle was damaged, while two Hizballah men were killed and six others wounded.

According to SSNP sources, however, Hizballah gunmen opened fire at the party's headquarters during the parade and upon the personnel carrier's arrival in Mashgharah. Party members responded to the source of this fire. Clashes involving the use of machineguns and rockets then ensued.

Security sources report that a unit of the Syrian special forces, together with the Lebanese Army, Brigadier General Ibrahim Salim, and key partisan figures, intervened to contain the incident. Calm has been restored to Mashgharah.

Junblatt, Birri Comment on Damascus Meetings

NC030828 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Text] Violent clashes took place last night on the Burj al-Barajinah and Shatila camp lines. There was also fighting around Maghdushah, when Palestinians made several infiltration attempts and were repulsed by Amal Movement fighters. In this tense atmosphere, efforts are continuing in Damascus to find a solution. Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam is scheduled to meet with Ministers Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt. Lebanese party leaders, who have been in Damascus since the beginning of the week, may attend these meetings.

Before leaving for Damascus, Minister Junblatt told visitors of his fear of serious consequences if an impasse is reached and no solutions are found to end the fighting in Beirut and the south. He said: The problem must be ended, and the Damascus agreement must constitute the general framework for any accord. There must be guarantees. The Palestinian National Salvation Front [PNSF] must also take a clear stand. He added: Despite the gravity of the situation and its effects, the PNSF must declare its position.

Minister Junblatt continued by saying: 'Arafat has caused this war one way or another and has poured oil on the fire. His intention is not only to set Lebanon against Syria but probably also to make the Palestinians despair and accept Jordanian-Israeli measures being taken in the West Bank, such as normalization [of relations] and things like that.

Upon his arrival in Damascus, Minister Junblatt consulted with Minister Birri, who briefed him on the atmosphere prevailing in the Syrian capital.

In another development, Minister Birri visited Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Shi'ite Islamic Council, at his place of residence in Damascus the day before yesterday. Birri informed Shams al-Din of the results of the meetings and consultations held in the Syrian capital. Later that night, Khaddam met with Shaykh Shams al-Din and Minister Birri.

Responding to a question, Minister Birri said the Saudi interior minister's visit to Damascus had nothing to do with the problem of the camps and surrounding areas. He added that he had met with the Iranian ambassador in Damascus and their discussions had centered on the camps problem.

Minister Birri noted that any agreement must incorporate two basic provisions: the withdrawal of the Palestinians to within their camps, and guarantees that the Al-Awali-Sayniq road will be kept open. He declared: I will not attend any meeting unless these two conditions are met. He stated he could suggest ways of ensuring that the coastal road is opened up, based on a comprehensive plan to remedy the situation in Sidon. He concluded by saying: We are ready for everything if it is guaranteed that these two conditions will be met.

Shams al-Din Meets Arab-American Society Members

NC011019 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Muhammad Mahdi, chairman of the Arab-American Society, and members of his delegation met today with Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Islamic Shi'ite Council. The meeting came as part of the delegation's efforts to bring about the release of U.S. hostages.

Fadlallah Meets Group

NC022104 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1530 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Muhammad Mahdi, secretary general of the National Council for Islamic Affairs in the United States [title as heard], and his assistant met with scholar Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah [Hizballah leader] today. Following this meeting, Shaykh Fadlallah asserted that Washington has prevented Kuwait from releasing its Arab prisoners in response to a request by the kidnappers of U.S. and French hostages being held in Lebanon. Scholar Fadlallah denied he had any relations with the kidnappers.

After his meeting with Shaykh Fadlallah, Muhammad Mahdi said he has not yet received any reply from the kidnappers. He affirmed that he expects to receive one within the week. He added that he will visit Ba'labakk to meet with people concerned with this issue.

Sheykh ol-Eslam, Shams al-Din Discuss Camps War

LD021434 Tehran IRNA in English 1428 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Damascus, Dec. 2, IRNA — Vice-Chairman of Lebanon's Shi'ite supreme assembly Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din met and conferred with Iran's visiting Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, here Tuesday.

Views were exchanged at the meeting on the Lebanese situations, especially efforts to end the camps clashes there.

'Israeli Blackmail' Should Be Confronted Openly

JN010825 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 1 Dec 86

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Under the headline "The Bonn Government and Israeli Blackmail," *Tishrin* says: When Israel succeeds in harming Arab-FRG relations, particularly Syrian-FRG relations, it is in fact doubling the possibility of blackmailing the Bonn government to extract more aid. This policy is not new. Israel carried out many operations in Europe and the Arab region against European and American installations to create a rupture between the Europeans and the Arabs. We all recall the famous Lavon affair where, at the instigation of the enemy defense minister, Mosad agents sabotaged U.S. installations in Egypt in order to elicit from the Americans a hostile stand toward the July revolution and to drag them into an undeclared war against Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir.

The paper continues: It is obvious that the Israeli blackmail of Europe has reached serious limits, thus endangering its independence. Although the Paris government sounded the alarm, confronting this blackmail — which has taken the shape of open terrorism — must not be done in secret; instead, this blackmail should be openly dealt with. It is time the European governments pointed to the true perpetrators, instead of leaking information to the media. It is in Europe's interest to clarify facts instead of submitting to further Israeli blackmail.

President's Letter on Palestinian Rights

JN011936 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 1 Dec 86

["Text" of letter from President Hafiz al-Asad to the UN Committee on Palestinian People's Rights on 30 November; read by announcer]

[Text] Mr Chairman of the Committee on Palestinian People's Rights, United Nations, New York: On behalf of the Syrian Arab people and on my own behalf, it gives me pleasure to salute your meeting, dedicated to solidarity with the Palestinian Arab people in their just struggle to regain their usurped rights.

When we mention the Palestinian Arab people, a picture of the gross injustice they suffered comes to mind as a consequence of a plot hatched in the capitals of colonialism in collusion with world Zionism. The Palestinian people, who have been enduring an aggression never experienced in the history of mankind, are victims of an imperialist policy seeking to dominate the Arab homeland — a policy whose objectives were identical with those of Zionism in dismembering the Arab homeland and creating Israel in its midst as an advance imperialist base and a tool for aggression and expansion.

Britain and the United States played the major role in enforcing this policy. They played the greatest role in enabling Zionism [illegible] invade and occupy Palestine, in displacing the overwhelming majority of its people through savage massacres and terrorist actions, and in enabling Israel, once it was established, to oppress, coerce, and persecute those Palestinians who remained on their land; to confiscate their lands; and subsequently, to expand by armed aggression into Arab territories adjacent to Palestine for the sake of realizing the Zionist scheme of establishing greater Israel from the Nile to the Euphrates.

The U.S. and British policies are the source of all the pain and suffering of the Palestinian people and the Arab nation. These policies are also responsible for the dangerous situation in the Middle East, threatening world peace and security.

Rather than working to establish a just peace as they should to do as permanent members of the UN Security Council, these two countries have consistently supported Israeli aggression, helped Israel commit aggression and violate the UN Charter, and aligned themselves with Israel in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The international community, represented by the United Nations, has the responsibility of forcing Israel to implement resolutions related to the rights of the Palestinian people, especially as Israel was established by a UN resolution.

We still remember the pressure applied by the United States so the resolution could be passed by a one-vote majority. The United Nations accepted Israel as a member on condition that Israel abide by the UN Charter and resolutions. Despite its continuous violation of the UN Charter and resolutions, Israel still enjoys membership in the world body.

The Palestinian people's cause is the central cause for us in Syria and the crux of our struggle for just peace in our region, which can be attained by ending Israeli occupation of Arab lands and recognizing the Palestinian people's rights, as called for by UN resolutions, within the framework of an international conference. Our position is clear. But Israel, supported by imperialist and colonialist forces, is blocking the road leading to just peace and trying to impose on the Arabs capitulationist terms that meet U.S.-Israeli conditions.

Syria will continue to support the just struggle of the Palestinian people until they regain their national rights in full. I wish your meeting success in supporting the Palestinian people and their rights, which if recognized, would make a major contribution to the establishment of just peace, for which we are striving.

[Signed] Hafiz al-Azad, President of the Syrian Arab Republic
Damascus 30 November, 1986

Bulgaria's Tanchev Received by Assembly Speaker

JN011527 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Petur Tanchev, Bulgarian State Council first deputy chairman and secretary of the National Agrarian Union, has praised Syria's important role under President Hafiz al-Asad, its prominent status among progressive countries, and its dynamic foreign policy in confronting imperialism and Zionism in this sensitive and strategic area in the world. He said Syria, which is confronting pressures and hostile provocations, is not alone in its battles for liberation, and that Bulgaria and all socialist bloc countries, as well as all forces of progress and liberation in the world, support Syria in its struggle for the sake of its causes and just Arab causes.

This took place when People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi received Tanchev and his accompanying delegation this morning. The Bulgarian ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting.

Tanchev expressed thanks for the warm reception he and his delegation are being accorded and his happiness at visiting Syria. He said he and his accompanying delegation see this visit as an expression of the Bulgarian people's solidarity with the friendly Syrian people. Tanchev then reviewed some achievements in Bulgaria as well as several current international issues. He also expressed satisfaction with the development of relations between Syria and Bulgaria on all levels and emphasized the need to constantly promote them in service of both countries' common interests.

For his part, Mahmud al-Zu'bi welcomed the delegation and said he hopes the delegation's visit to Syria will be a successful one, stressing that this visit by a ranking delegation demonstrates the solid friendship and the excellent relations between the two friendly peoples and countries, particularly in the current circumstances where Syria is experiencing a fierce imperialist-Zionist onslaught.

Al-Zu'bi praised Bulgaria's stand supporting just Arab causes and stressed that bilateral relations and the bases of friendship and cooperation which were laid down by Presidents al-Asad and Zhivkov are deeply entrenched and are continuously developing in issues of mutual interest, including solid parliamentary relations, exchange of visits and expertise, and coordination of stands on parliamentary issues and other topics put forth for discussion in international parliamentary fora.

Al-Zu'bi then explained some of the economic and social achievements Syria has scored under the canopy of the Ba'th Party and struggler President Hafiz al-Asad, Ba'th Party secretary general, namely, the issue of democracy and its institutions such as local government, the People's Assembly, the election of its members, the People's Assembly's political and social configuration, and its prerogatives and activities.

Al-Zu'bi also reviewed some current Arab and international issues and Syria's stand. Al-Zu'bi stressed that the Syrian people under President Hafiz al-Asad are determined to pursue the struggle and confront all kinds of pressures, conspiracies, and challenges with determination, courage, and fearlessness until they score a final victory against their enemies and establish a society of progress and socialism based on their inherent strength and the support of friends, forces of progress and liberation in the world, and socialist countries, particularly the friendly USSR.

Meets With Al-Asad

JN021757 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] At noon today President Hafiz al-Asad received Petur Tanchev, first vice president of the Bulgarian State Council and his delegation. The meeting was attended by Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. Tanchev handed the president a letter from Bulgarian State Council Chairman Todor Zhivkov, expressing the solidarity of the People's Republic of Bulgaria with the Syrian Arab Republic in confronting pressures, ambitions, and the aggressive schemes of imperialism and Zionism.

Talks dealt with international and regional developments as well as bilateral relations. Tanchev expressed his country's condemnation of the new imperialist-Zionist campaign against Syria and its firm support for Syria in standing up to the schemes and aggressive imperialist-Zionist maneuvers to impose their will and hegemony on Syria and the Arabs. Bulgaria, he added, praises Syria's principled and peace-loving foreign policy and its extremely important role in combating Israel's U.S.-backed policy of militarism and invasion.

The president expressed his thanks for Bulgaria's solidarity with Syria in facing the imperialist-Zionist campaign of pressures and threats, adding that Syria will not deviate from its anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist line, rejecting all forms of imperialist domination of the area or of capitulation to Israel. President al-Asad said the Syrian people's morale is high and that they are prepared for the sacrifices needed to abort imperialist-Zionist schemes. Current pressures on Syria, he added, are doomed because the Syrian masses, the Armed Forces, Arab masses, and Syria's friends in the socialist bloc, led by the USSR, are capable of defeating imperialist-Zionist plans of hegemony and expansion.

Tanchev also extended an invitation for President al-Asad to visit the People's Republic of Bulgaria. The president accepted the invitation and promised to act upon it at an early date.

Concludes Visit, Departs

JN030740 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Text] Petur Tanchev, first vice president of the Bulgarian State Council, left Damascus yesterday following a visit to Syria during which he conveyed a message from Todor Zhivkov, chairman of the Bulgarian State Council to President Hafiz al-Asad. Tanchev conveyed an invitation to President al-Asad to visit Bulgaria. The president accepted the invitation and promised to visit Bulgaria at an early date.

Al-Shar' Meets Franjiyah, Bulgarian Official

JN021357 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' today received Robert Franjiyah and discussed with him the situation in Lebanon. The minister also received Ivan Ganev, Bulgarian deputy foreign minister for Middle East Affairs. The meeting was attended by Assistant Foreign Minister Diya'allah al-Fattal; Jabir al-Kafri, director of the East European desk at the Foreign Ministry; and the Bulgarian ambassador in Damascus. Talks dealt with the international situation, Middle East developments, and friendly bilateral relations.

11 Lawyers Released at Union Head's Request

JN021953 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1720 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Khartoum, 2 Dec (SUNA) — The Syrian authorities have released 11 Syrian lawyers who spent about 5 years under arrest. This was stated to the newspaper *Al-Maydan*, organ of the Sudanese Communist Party, by Nur al-Din al-Habbal, doyen of Syrian lawyers, who is currently visiting the country to attend the meetings of the Union of Arab Lawyers which began in Khartoum today. He explained that he received a cable yesterday informing the secretary general of the Union of Arab Lawyers of this action.

Faruq Abu 'Isa, secretary general of the Union of Arab Lawyers, requested the release of those lawyers during his meeting with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad last April. *Al-Maydan* cited Abu 'Isa as saying that this was the greatest gift presented to the lawyers' meeting.

People's Assembly Reviews Supply Situation

JN022109 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Excerpts] The People's Assembly held a session this evening under Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi. The session was attended by Dr Salim Yasin, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, and ministers.

The People's Assembly discusssed the report submitted by its special committee on the supply situation in the country, including basic commodities, and the issue of distribution, prices, and supply control. [passage omitted]

The report reviewed the situation of commodities in terms of quantities available for consumption and their prices.

The report noted that there is a shortage of some of these quantities and stressed the need to avoid a shortage in basic commodities.

As for prices, the report noted their imbalance and proposed the need to have one body in the country responsible for unifying prices of all commodities throughout Syria as well as stabilizing these prices if possible.

With respect to supply control, the report recommended establishing permanent centers for supply control and making popular organizations participate in these centers, supervise distribution, create supply courts, and take into account elements tampering with the people's livelihood.

The report also discussed the situation of bakeries from all aspects. [passage omitted]

With respect to government-run consumer stores, the report recommended developing activities of these stores to secure basic foodstuffs, eliminate bottlenecks, crises, monopolies, and brokerages, and to distribute imported goods and those locally produced in addition to setting their prices. [passage omitted]

The report concluded by saying that the supply crisis in the country is transient and fabricated and can be overcome by depending on one's own resources, increasing production, and rationalizing expenditures and consumption. [passage omitted]

Further Reportage, Commentary on Arms Deal

Cooperation With U.S. Investigators

TA031610 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Report by political correspondent 'Oz Frankel — live]

[Excerpt] Shamir, Peres, and Rabin have made a decision in principle in anticipation of an expected U.S. request [to question Israelis involved in the Iran arms affair] which, although it has not yet been received, will certainly come. Teams of experts in the Prime Minister's Office and the Foreign Ministry have in the last few days been dealing with the question of how Israel should react when the Americans officially ask Israel to allow it to interrogate those involved.

The conclusions were submitted to the decision-making trio — the prime minister, the foreign minister, and the defense minister — and the decision in principle adopted at the end of the consultations was to have been expected: Israel will comply with the U.S. request although it will seek to make sure that its interests and those of the people questioned are not harmed.

To the regret of many, there is a precedent in this matter. In the Pollard affair, Israel made sure that those Israelis who were questioned would not be personally harmed as a result of giving testimony.

It should be noted once again that Washington has not yet submitted an official request. However, in off-the-record talks at the working level in both the U.S. Administration and the Israeli Embassy in Washington the possibility has been raised on more than one occasion that Israel may shortly be asked to cooperate with the investigation. [passage omitted]

DIE WELT Interviews Shamir

DW031121 Bonn DIE WELT in German 3 Dec 86 p 6

[Interview with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by *Die Welt* editor Juergen Liminski; date and place not given]

[Text] *Die Welt*: Mr Prime Minister: The first question must deal with the U.S.-Iran-Israel connection.
Shamir: That does not surprise me.

Die Welt: Have the shipments been stopped?
Shamir: Naturally.

Die Welt: Will they be resumed later on?
Shamir: You know, it was mainly an American operation. You know what is going on in the United States now. I do not believe that the Washington government is now in a position to make a decision on it.

Die Welt: According to U.S. media reports, Israel has supplied weapons to Central America for a long time. Is that true?
Shamir: It is not true. Israel has never supplied weapons or money to the contras. We sell weapons to some countries in Latin America, not to the contras, not to private organizations, only to countries.

Die Welt: To Nicaragua also?
Shamir: No. Nicaragua is a communist country. We do not sell weapons to communist countries.

Die Welt: But maybe to anticommunist rebels?
Shamir: No. Only to independent states.

Die Welt: Iran, for example?
Shamir: That is a different matter. This is a joint operation together with the United States in which we helped to bring weapons to Iran.

Die Welt: How many?
Shamir: I do not know the exact quantity, but it was not much.

Die Welt: Enough to decide a war?
Shamir: In no case. The target of the operation was to free U.S. hostages and to facilitate a certain political dialogue with political elements in Iran. Israel was just an instrument; the initiative came from America. That is all.

Die Welt: Do you believe that this joint operation was helpful in relations with America?
Shamir: Certainly. We have strategic cooperation with the United States. If the United States asks us for help, we are prepared to give it.

Die Welt: And if the United States asks Israel to supply weapons to the contras?
Shamir: That would be something else again. It would contradict U.S. Senate resolutions that determined that the United States would not supply weapons to the contras. Therefore, we would not comply with such a request without the knowledge and permission of Congress.

Die Welt: There are rumors that Iraq wants to get weapons from Israel also.
Shamir: I know nothing of that. I read that report, but I know nothing of it.

Die Welt: Other rumors say that Iran asked Israel to cut the supply line from Aqaba to Baghdad.
Shamir: You know, if you want me to deny all the current rumors, we will sit here all night and still not be done.

Die Welt: Now about the peace process — was progress achieved after the meetings in Morocco and Alexandria?
Shamir: It depends on what one consider a peace process. If it is a matter of creating a better atmosphere, the answer is yes.

Die Welt: What do you think of an international Middle East conference?
Shamir: An international Middle East conference corresponds to the wishes of the Soviets and the Arab states. I do not believe that such a conference will contribute anything to peace in our region. We believe only in direct contacts between us and our neighbors. Only in direct face to face talks can we achieve peace, but not through conferences where countries participate that do

not maintain normal relations with us — like Russia and China. That would only be a propaganda forum and lead to no progress. I think little of that. However, under certain circumstances I would not object to an international conference. For example, if it took place after specific agreements with our neighbors. Perhaps an international conference would then be necessary to ratify the agreement or to secure guarantees. Maybe. First and most important, agreements must be drawn up between Israel and its neighbors through direct contacts.

Die Welt: Why do the Arab countries attach so much importance to an international conference?
Shamir: First, they do not want to start direct negotiations with Israel, because that would presuppose the recognition of Israel. Second, at an international conference, there would always be a majority against Israel. The Soviet Union and other countries would always side with the Arabs. That is why the Arab position has always been that the United Nations should decide on the situation in the Middle East. The Arabs have always advocated internationalization of the conflict. That is not in our interest. We do not want to depend on international protection. We are an independent country and want to negotiate with other countries on the basis of equality.

Die Welt: It looks as if there was some quiet cooperation between Israel and King Husayn. Three mayors have been installed in the West Bank, the Cairo-Amman bank opened a branch, and trade is flourishing.
Shamir: That is an exaggeration. There is no cooperation with Jordan. There are only a few points on which we agree.

Die Welt: How about direct contacts with the Soviet Union?
Shamir: We have no direct contacts with the Soviet Union. There was a meeting in Helsinki several months ago, but that has not been continued.

Die Welt: Has the normalization process with the Soviet Union stopped now? Are there additional contacts with other Eastern bloc countries?
Shamir: We have an office in Warsaw, which constitutes our diplomatic representation and is located in the building of the former Israeli embassy. We hope that it is the beginning of normal relations with Poland. The Poles have an office representing its interests in Tel Aviv.

During the recent UN General Assembly, I met the Hungarian and Bulgarian foreign ministers. We discussed mutual representations of interests. They are neither for nor against them. At least not right now. It will probably materialize eventually.

Die Welt: Regarding terrorism, what do you think about the German and European measures against Syria?
Shamir: The EC decision to take measures against any country supporting terrorism — in this case Syria — is encouraging. It is a step forward. I would like tougher measures, but it undoubtedly is the right way.

Die Welt: Do you believe that President al-Asad is directly involved in terrorism?
Shamir: Syria, the Syrian Government, is involved. We know the Syrian Government system. It is not a totalitarian, but an autocratic system, and it is inconceivable for the president not to be informed about everything that the government is doing. There is no indication that anything is being done without the president's knowledge.

Die Welt: What do you mean by tougher measures?
Shamir: Well, Europeans know what I mean.

Die Welt: Follow the British example?
Shamir: Why not? If somebody is really serious about acting against terrorism he will have to prevent every country from supporting terrorists, because terrorist organizations depend on countries for help. For example, the PLO could not exist without the support from Arab countries, the Soviet Union, and the Eastern European countries. They all give logistical, financial, and military assistance, and occasionally also provide training camps. Terror organizations use diplomatic couriers to smuggle weapons, and they also use diplomatic passports in many countries. Without that support, they would be unable to continue their terrorist activities.

Die Welt: Your government has said that Israel will not be the first country to introduce nuclear weapons into the region. Can Israel introduce such weapons?
Shamir: We say that Israel will not be the first country to introduce nuclear weapons. That is our policy. We are ready to negotiate with all the countries of the region on a nuclear-free zone.

Die Welt: Would you continue to object to German weapons sales to Arab countries if Germany were to supply weapons to Israel as well?
Shamir: We did not ask Germany for weapons. We have repeatedly expressed our desire that Germany not sell weapons to Arab countries that do not live in peace with Israel. We say the same thing to the United States and to all other countries. In the case of Germany we have additional reasons.

Die Welt: How do you assess Israel's relations with the Federal Republic?
Shamir: Our relations are cordial and friendly. We cooperate in many fields. At the same time, we must recall a historic dimension that is tragic and forms part of the relations between the German and Jewish peoples. We expect Germany always to be aware of that past, so that future generations are better equipped to open a new chapter in the two peoples' relationship.

Die Welt: When will you have an ambassador in Austria again?
Shamir: When the time for such a decision arrives.

Officials Deny Nir Involvement

TA030821 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 3 Dec 86 p 1

[Report by Hirst Goodman]

[Text] Israeli officials have emphatically denied any prior knowledge of the transfer of funds to the Contras.

The Jerusalem Post has been assured by the highest possible sources that Israel "learned of the transfer of the funds to the Contras just hours before the news was made public by Attorney General Meese."

Two principals involved in the planning and execution of the Iranian arms deal on behalf of the U.S. said they were "horrified" by the news of the secret funding.

"If you think that Israel would have jeopardised its excellent relations with the Congress by being party to a deal that was intended to circumvent it, than you have a very shallow grasp of international relations," *The Post* was told.

The Post has further been assured by the same sources that Israeli ministers aware of the details of the Iranian arms transfer are satisfied that the prime minister's adviser on terror, 'Amiram Nir, knew nothing about the Contras connection. They expressed full confidence in Nir's abilities and integrity, and "welcomed any American investigation that would help clarify the issues, if the Americans desire such an investigation."

"We have absolutely nothing to hide. In fact," *The Post* was told, "we viewed our role as an... expression of the strategic accords that bind Israel and the U.S. and assumed, and continued to assume, that we were acting on behalf of the President of the United States. Relevant top-echelon American officials were full partners in the evolution of the deal, and were duly briefed on all aspects of it," *The Post* was told.

PM's Office Defends Nir

TA031055 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1042 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Text] The office of Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has again denied any prior Israeli knowledge of the transfer of money from the arms deals with Iran to the Nicaraguan rebels. An official communique issued a short while ago by the office spokesman states that if there is truth to today's press reports that U.S. Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North told the Attorney General's Office investigators that he had briefed 'Amiram Nir on the destination of the money, this is completely unfounded. 'Amiram Nir had no idea that the funds, or parts thereof, were intended for the Nicaraguan contras.

Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel reports that the communique was issued following ministerial consultations held this morning in the Prime Minister's Office on the Iranian affair.

Saudi Arabia Implicated

TA020828 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 2 Dec 86 pp 1, 2

[Report from Washington by Wolf Blitzer and from London by David Horowitz]

[Excerpts] President Reagan and other senior administration officials are continuing to suggest that Israel was directly involved in the transfer of profits from the Iran arms sales to the contras fighting the Sandinista regime in Nicaragua. [passage omitted]

But sources involved in the affair told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday that if any third country had in fact channelled funds to the contras, it was Saudi Arabia.

The Saudi role may have been connected with the arrangement under which the Saudis finally received AWACS surveillance planes from the U.S.

Israeli officials in Washington were deeply upset by the president's comments, which received extensive publicity in the American news media and so obviously contradicted Israel's official denial. [passage omitted]

Shamir Message to Shultz

TA020945 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 2 Dec 86 pp 1, 2

[Report by 'Aqiva Eldar and Tzvi Bar'el]

[Excerpt] In a message he sent to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz yesterday, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir denies that Israel was involved in the financing of the "contras" in Nicaragua. The message was sent in the wake of President Reagan's remarks in *Time* magazine about a third country which had transferred to the "contras" remuneration Iran paid for the arms supplies. Shamir asked Israel's Ambassador Me'ir Rosenne to inform Shultz, and through him the President, that Israel had had nothing to do with it and had not even known until Attorney General Edwin Meese disclosed that the money from the Swiss bank account had been transferred to the "contras."

The decision to send the message was made yesterday in a meeting between the prime minister and Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres after clarifications in Washington gave rise to fears that the President's remarks about a third country pointed to Israel. Great concern was expressed in Jerusalem yesterday about this turn of events which has once again attracted attention to Israel. On the other hand, a senior Israeli official said last night, "we do not want to lock horns with the U.S. President." [passage omitted]

'Concern' Over Reagan Interview

TA020708 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Talk between program moderator Mikha Friedman and political correspondent 'Oz Frankel — live in the studio]

[Text] [Friedman] We will open with our daily regular question: Has there been a request to question Israelis whose names have been mentioned in connection with the affair of the arms supply to Iran?

[Frankel] Knowledgeable sources with whom we spoke this morning again assured us that no official U.S. request regarding an investigation of the Iran affair has arrived in Israel as yet.

However, it should be noted that this is merely a formality because all those familiar with the subject know for certain that it is only a matter of days, or a few hours, before it arrives. The reports on this issue will eventually come true and this possibility has indeed been raised in off-the-record talks conducted by the Israeli Embassy staff in Washington.

It should also be noted that several parallel investigations — at least three — will shortly be conducted in the United States. Consequently, several requests are expected to be submitted to Israel to cooperate. In any event, it is clear to the Americans that Israel will cooperate and help, just as it did in the past. However, political sources reiterated to us that Israel should meticulously look after its interests. For example, Jerusalem will ask that the probe be conducted here in Israel, not in the United States, either by U.S. envoys or in the form of a questionnaire, and efforts will also be made to ensure that the Israelis who are questioned will not be hurt as a result of the investigations.

[Friedman] Meanwhile, until the U.S. request arrives, we have another issue to discuss — namely, the interview President Reagan gave to *Time* Magazine where he talked about a third country that had transferred funds to the Nicaraguan contras. Reagan did not mention Israel by name, but the hint was obvious. How does Jerusalem react to President Reagan's statements?

[Frankel] President Reagan's remarks definitely gave rise to concern in Jerusalem. The matter was looked into and it is believed here that Reagan said what he did based on information given to him by Attorney General Edwin Meese, apparently without knowing about the Israeli denial issued last week. The interview with *Time* took place in the middle of last week.

In consultations held in Jerusalem yesterday, it was decided not to issue a public reaction to the remarks attributed to the U.S. President. As a rule, the Israeli tendency is to keep as low a profile as possible so as not to attract attention to Israel. Also, the fact that the President did not explicitly mention Israel by name helped make this decision. At the same time, however, the Israeli Embassy in Washington was asked last night to transfer to Attorney General Edwin Meese, who is a key figure in the development of this affair....

[Friedman, interrupting] He is the first one who mentioned Israel by name as being connected to the transfer of funds to the contras.

[Frankel] He was the first one to do so and apparently he is also the man who helps the President with advice and information. The embassy was asked to convey to him the text of our public communique of last week according to which Israel had nothing to do with the transfer of funds from Iran to the Nicaraguan rebels.

[Friedman] What is the significance of this step? After all, the communique was carried by the media and it must certainly have reached Meese and, from him, Reagan.

[Frankel] Officials here thought it would be best to repeat the denial and to make sure that the Americans are very well aware of what Israel thinks and knows. At this point, maybe we should note that repeated checks with all the elements involved in the affair conducted over the last few days in Jerusalem once again confirm that Israel had no prior knowledge about the destination of the funds the Iranians transferred in exchange for the weapons.

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir disclosed yesterday in a meeting with the president of B'nai B'rith that Israel had in the past rejected proposals and requests to assist the contras because, among other things, it knew this would contravene explicit Congress decisions. Shamir noted that all Israeli arms sales to Central American countries — and such sales have been carried out — had been fully coordinated with the U.S. State Department.

Meese Contacts Ambassador Rosenne

TA030520 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Text] U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese explained last night that the administration is not accusing Israel of any wrongdoing in connection with the arms sales to Iran or the transfer of money to the Nicaraguan rebels. He said this over the telephone to our ambassador in Washington.

Ambassador Me'ir Rosenne called the attorney general and emphasized once more that Israel had no involvement in and no knowledge of the transfer of funds. Secretary Meese expressed the hope that Israel will cooperate with the U.S. bodies that are investigating these affairs.

Peres: No Knowledge of Contra Tie

TA021830 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres referred to the Iran arms controversy in Pardes Hana today. Vivien Royston reports:

[Begin recording] [Royston] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres categorically denies that Israel received any financial gain in the Iran arms deal.

[Peres] Israel didn't do what she did for any financial reasons or purposes, or for any sort of expediency. That was neither the reason nor the purpose.

[Royston] Israel, continued Peres, is a country which is not soft on terrorism, but it will never forget the fate of a single individual that has become a prisoner or a hostage.

[Peres] I feel very strongly that this is the essence of democracy, and I admit that there is a contradiction between the two efforts: one, not to submit to the whims of terrorists, and the other, not to forget.

[Royston] On the question of the monies from the deal reaching the contras in Nicaragua, Foreign Minister Peres is adamant that if it did reach the contras it was without Israel's knowledge.

In the final analysis, Foreign Minister Peres feels that the whole deal has been highly inflated. [end recording]

Peres Defends Arms Sale

TA030712 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres rejected the charges against his failure to raise the issue of the arms deals with Iran before the Cabinet or the Inner Cabinet and seek their approval. I have no regrets, he continues to maintain; our motives were pure. Shim'on Peres was speaking to Pardes Hana students yesterday, and Haviva Roger brings excerpts of his remarks:

[Begin Peres recording] It is customary in the Cabinet that anything related to the sale or shipment of arms is approved by three ministers: the prime minister, the foreign minister, and the defense minister. No one has ever questioned this practice or sought a debate on it, either in the Inner Cabinet or in the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. Therefore this matter, just like others, was indeed discussed by the forum of these three ministers, and they approved it. Thus any argument against this decisionmaking process is a bit tardy. I am also not sure that there are any other countries in the world that make their arms sales or purchases public, and do not forget that our country is still in a very special situation both with respect to its arms purchases and in terms of its arms sales. Our people have agreed to keep this subject more or less secret, and there is a national consensus on this. That is why we acted in this case as we have on similar subjects. [end recording]

Rabin Denies Contra Tie

TA021641 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Report by Knesset correspondent Yinon Shenkar]

[Text] A few minutes ago the Knesset struck off its agenda the two motions on Israel's military assistance. In his motion Knesset member [MK] Matityahu Peled of the Progressive List for Peace complained about Israel's involvement in military assistance to the Third World. MK Haya Grossman from MAPAM attacked the government for the involvement of Israelis in Nicaragua and South American countries. The issue cannot remain unsupervised, Grossman said.

[Begin Grossman recording] The trading of arms, military training, cannot be unsupervised. And the supervision procedure must be established. In this respect we must be more sensitive than the United States. [end recording]

Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, the third member of the Peres-Shamir-Rabin decisionmaking trio, replied to the motions on the agenda, first explaining Israel's policy on the sale of arms.

[Begin Rabin recording] Israel's policy on the export of arms is determined by a series of considerations: political, security, military, and economic. Every decision is made by a forum of at least three ministers. [end recording]

Afterwards, the defense minister said that we did not know about the transfer of money to the Nicaraguan rebels, and we did not carry this out.

[Begin Rabin recording] The Israeli Government does not have any contacts or ties with, and does not supply arms from here to the rebels fighting against the Nicaraguan Government. Israel did not authorize any Israeli to assist, supply information, or sell arms from Israel to the rebels fighting the Nicaraguan Government. [end recording]

Official Nicaraguan Delegation Postpones Visit

TA030940 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Text] An official Nicaraguan delegation that was scheduled to visit Israel next month at the invitation of MAPAM has announced a postponement of the visit. Reference is to an Agriculture Ministry delegation that would have been the first official delegation from that country since the Sandinista revolution. The letter explaining the reasons for the postponement has not yet reached Israel, and no one knows whether the reason is reports that Israel had helped transfer funds to the rebels in Nicaragua.

Secret Contacts With USSR 'Senior' Diplomats Noted

TA030704 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Text] The Soviet Union has been showing interest in resuming official talks with Israel with the hope of establishing consular ties in return for the incorporation of the Soviet Union in the regional political process. This transpires from a series of contacts that have recently been held in Western capitals between Israeli and Soviet officials. 'Oz Frankel is in our Jerusalem studios:

[Frankel — live] At the end of his meeting with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze 2 months ago, then Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said that a tiny crack, as he called it, has opened in the great wall. It now appears that that tiny crack is widening, and this time we are talking about a series of secret contacts between senior diplomats from both countries who have been holding planned talks with a clear purpose in which the Soviet side has been evincing interest in resuming open contacts with Israel with the hope of establishing bilateral consular ties, at least, at the initial stage.

The Soviets maintain that the Helsinki talks ended unsuccessfully due to the heavy public pressure applied by Israel over the Jewish issue, and are suggesting that some form of follow-up to the talks be found, in one framework or another. The Soviet representatives have also reported readiness to reconsider their country's attitude toward the emigration of Jews living there, maintaining that an improvement in the condition of Soviet Jewry has already occurred. The representatives have also explained that a process of reassessing the Middle East policy has recently been going on in Moscow, based on the assessment that the USSR's exclusive support for Syria is preventing it from having any real role to speak of in the Middle East political process.

Let us add that these contacts will soon be continued, and they will come in addition to reports from Israeli Embassies in Europe indicating an increasing Soviet interest in resuming the bilateral dialogue. All this further corroborates the feeling here in Jerusalem that something has been moving in Moscow — slowly but surely — and that the movement is in the direction of Israel.

Shamir Denies New Stand on International Forum

TA020956 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 2 Dec 86 p 2

[Report by the political correspondent]

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir would agree to convening an "international forum," but only after an agreement has been reached in direct negotiations with its partners to the peace talks. This was stated yesterday by the Prime Minister's Office, thus denying reports that Shamir's position on the proposal to convene an international peace conference had, as it were, changed.

It should be noted that this position contravenes the stand proclaimed by former Prime Minister Peres in the Knesset in October 1985 and approved in a subsequent vote. According to the version presented to the Knesset, the international conference is supposed to be a framework for the opening, rather than for the conclusion, of negotiations.

It was reported on Shamir's behalf that the prime minister insists that the only way to attain peace agreements is through direct negotiations, and that an "international forum" can only give its blessings to the arrangements attained in direct negotiations.

Shamir Confirms Syria Has Chemical Weapons

TA020946 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 2 Dec 86 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Yosi Melman]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has for the first time confirmed that Syria has chemical weapons. In a meeting with U.S. Senator Daniel Inouye in Jerusalem yesterday, Shamir said: "Syria is arming itself with modern chemical weapons." According to the prime minister, Israel must keep alert and the IDF must be prepared to prevent any surprises. "This calls for a vast financial effort, and U.S. assistance on this issue is vital," Shamir said. [passage omitted]

Shamir, Rabin Comment

TA021517 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] The defense minister says that the Cabinet is aware of the serious danger from chemical weapons and will do everything in its power to prepare against it.

Responding to a query by Knesset Member Amnon Linn, Minister Rabin said that Syria possesses chemical weapons mounted on artillery and surface-to-surface and surface-to-air missiles. Syria is even prepared to propagate chemical weapons and put them at the disposal of other countries in the region. It may have already given chemical weapons to Iran. The gravest aspect of the affair is that the world is apathetic to the horrors of chemical warfare. The limitations imposed by the Europeans on the export of chemical materials are minimal, and these countries hardly interfere to block exports.

Earlier, the prime minister told our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal that the IDF is making efforts to step up its deterrent capability vis-a-vis Syria, among others against chemical weapons. [passage omitted]

No Signal From Poland on Higher Level of Relations

TA020837 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 2 Dec 86 p 1

[Report by diplomatic correspondent Benny Morris and REUTER]

[Excerpts] There have been no "signals" by Poland in recent weeks indicating that Warsaw is contemplating raising the level of diplomatic representation with Israel, according to informed sources in Jerusalem.

The sources were reacting to an interview with Polish Foreign Minister Marian Orzechowski, published yesterday in the Danish newspaper *Berlingske Tidende*, in which the minister was quoted as saying that the current level of representation "may well develop into full diplomatic status." [passage omitted]

The sources in Jerusalem said that Orzechowski's statements were "interesting," but they suggested that he may have been responding to questions rather than initiating statements on his own.

Foreign Ministry sources declined to comment officially last night on the statements, saying they would first like to see the full text of the interview, which has not yet reached them from Copenhagen.

Polish Interests Office To Change Operation

TA021004 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 2 Dec 86 p 5

[Report by Refa'el Mann]

[Text] The Polish "interests office" which recently opened in Tel Aviv will not be able to operate in the framework of the Polish P.K.O. Bank, as had been agreed in negotiations between the two countries.

Galya Ma'or, the examiner of banks of the Bank of Israel, has recently informed the Foreign Ministry that the handling of consular matters in the framework of a bank is forbidden by law.

It has emerged that this restriction had not been known to the officials who conducted the negotiations with the Polish Government on the opening of the interests office.

Political sources noted that the Bank of Israel's announcement would not affect the practical activities of the office, and that a legal way to operate the Polish office is currently being sought. [passage omitted]

Senior Polish Economic Representative Visiting

TA030552 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Text] A rare visitor to Israel, without the cloak of secrecy albeit at a low profile, a senior economic representative of the Polish Government has been in Israel for a few days. He is currently serving as the man in charge of foreign currency in the Polish Finance Ministry and he is the most senior delegate to visit Israel, at least since the 6-Day War. The details were learned by our economic affairs correspondent in Tel Aviv, Gadi Sukenik.

[Begin Sukenik recording] Zbigniew Karcz, who arrived in Israel 2 days ago, supervises the Polish budget and deals with foreign countries. He is also the president of the PKO bank, one of the largest government-run banks in his country, which has had a branch operating in Israel for 53 years. Karcz represents Poland in the IMF, too. His predecessors served as directors of the Israeli PKO branch after they retired from official government posts, but since the 6-Day War no representative of his high rank has visited Israel.

The senior Polish official will hold meetings this morning with the governor of the Bank of Israel. Later he will meet with the finance minister and with the directors of the larger banks. The purpose of the visit is to expand economic and trade ties between the two countries, and to indirectly increase the volume of activity of the PKO bank's Tel Aviv branch and rejuvenate it — in other words, restore to it the scope of activity that it had prior to the 1967 war. As far as we know, this does not necessarily involve more commerce between the two governments, but rather between private entrepreneurs. What about an economic thaw? Perhaps. One must bear in mind that the Poles have close economic relations with the Arab countries, too. I have learned that this visit is the result of preparatory meetings with Israelis held outside Israel. It seems that the visit is also connected, if only indirectly, with the recent resumption of foreign relations between the two countries, sensitive and limited though they may be. [end recording]

'Terrorist' Squad Arrested on Golan Heights

TA020530 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] The security forces in the north have arrested a terrorist squad which planned to attack IDF units on the Golan Heights. The squad belongs to George Habash's Democratic Front and was organized by a youth from the village of Mas'adah on the Golan Heights.

The members of the squad were arrested following an investigation and will shortly be brought before a military court for trial.

4 SLA Soldiers Killed, 7 Wounded in Security Zone

TA020941 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0930 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Four soldiers of the South Lebanese Army [SLA] were killed and seven were wounded in a firing incident on the northern boundary of the security zone this morning. Our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz reports that fighting broke out between SLA soldiers and terrorists who attacked two SLA positions. Reinforcements were summoned to the scene. A land mine which exploded next to them also injured three soldiers.

Hizballah 'Terrorists' Involved

TA021504 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1432 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Dozens of Shi'ite terrorists belonging to Hizballah were involved in the attacks on South Lebanese Army [SLA] positions in the security zone today. This is reported by our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz. One of the terrorists was killed in the fighting, and others who were wounded are known to have succeeded in escaping from the area. As reported, four SLA soldiers were killed and seven others injured in the fighting today.

W. Bank Institutions To Close Following Rioting

TA011754 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1339 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Four educational institutions in Judaea and Samaria will be closed for the rest of the week in the wake of the rioting there over the past few days. This was decided upon by the institutions' directors. Our correspondent Ilan Ben-Dor reports that this involves three educational centers run by UNRWA in Qalandiyah and Ramallah, as well as a private college called (Shiyuqi), also in Ramallah.

Mufti Interviewed on Protection Needs, U.S. 'Enemy'

TA281858 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English 28 Nov 86 p 16

[Interview with Shaykh Sa'ad al-Din al-'Alami, head of the Higher Islamic Council in Jerusalem, by *Al-Fajr's* Sami al-'Abudi; place and date not given]

[Text] *Al-Fajr*: There were different versions in the press about your request of foreign diplomats last week. What exactly did you ask them for?
Al-'Alami: I met with the foreign diplomats in an appeal to the world to protect Jerusalem's Arab residents from Jewish attacks. My house and my children are under real danger and the world must help protect them.

Al-Fajr: What kind of protection are you talking about? Are you asking that an international force be sent to Jerusalem?
Al-'Alami: Chedli Klibi (the Arab League Secretary General) announced that he will ask the UN Security Council to take up this matter, and since the Arab League is taking up the matter, we are willing to go along with what they decide.

Al-Fajr: What were the consuls' response to your request?
Al-'Alami: They are only representatives of their governments. They are only entitled to take our complaints and convey them to their governments. They cannot give any opinion about them.

Al-Fajr: Have you heard anything since from them?
Al-'Alami: Not yet, but we hope that they will respond positively to us.

Al-Fajr: There was a report in *Al-Quds* newspaper that the U.S. opposed the suggestion of placing an international force in Jerusalem. How do you perceive this stand?
Al-'Alami: America is my enemy before Israel. America is an enemy to the whole Arab world. It has always been so and if the U.S. continues with its postures, the Arabs must take a different stand toward it. The Arabs are capable of many things to stop the anti- Arab stands of the U.S.

Al-Fajr: Do you think the Israeli authorities did enough to control the Jewish extremists?
Al-'Alami: The authorities were protecting them, and they still are. They are colluding to kick the Arabs out of this country. But we will never leave.

Al-Fajr: Did you approach the Israeli authorities to stop the vigilantes?
Al-'Alami: No, I did not. I only sent them a letter of protest. I am not willing to contact them. They are very well informed about what is happening.

PLO Drops Sinyurah, Abu Rahmah From Delegation

TA030858 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 3 Dec 86 p 1

[Report by Joel Greenberg]

[Text] The PLO has decided to drop *Al-Fajr* editor Hanna Sinyurah and Gaza lawyer Fayiz Abu Rahmah from a new delegation it is forming for Middle East peace talks, according to reliable Palestinian sources.

The formation of a delegation whose members are not from the territories and who are openly affiliated with the PLO reflects concern that Palestinians from the territories could take political positions independent of the PLO, the sources said. Recent statements by Sinyurah have reportedly fuelled this concern. Sinyurah and Abu Rahmah were originally listed by the PLO as observers in a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to peace talks. The delegation reshuffle reflects a hardening of the PLO line, according to the sources.

AL-FAJR Assails Syria for Anti-Palestinian Stand

TA021758 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 28 Nov 86 pp 1, 5

[Editorial: "The Lebanese Battles and the Responsibility of the Syrian Regime]

[Text] The Syrian regime is not content with guiding and supporting the "Amal" militias in their destructive war against the entire national Palestinian presence in Lebanon, but is currently inciting the national Lebanese movement against the PLO on one hand, and distorting reality and the events taking place on Lebanon's soil, on the other.

The official Syrian spokesman alleges that the responsibility for the current fighting in Lebanon falls on the "PLO, Israel, and the United States"(?!) and is thus turning the facts upside down in order to hide his face under the heaps of innocent bodies which are scattered around the Palestinian camps and the Lebanese towns and villages.

The Syrian conspiracy in Lebanon has been emerging since 1982, and even before that date. But this conspiracy has become more ferocious since 1984. It is characterized by repeated attempts to control the Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut and southern Lebanon in order to control Palestinian political decisionmaking as a whole. It appears that this conspiracy has assumed new dimensions in confronting the will of the Palestinian factions — including those in Damascus — with regard to complete national unity within the framework of the PLO and its legitimate leadership.

Why does the Syrian regime insist on striking out against this will? And why does it pursue its nihilist policy in Lebanon, by means of factional fragmentation and by dissolving the national Lebanese movement?

What the Syrian regime considers an Israeli-U.S. connection in the current war in Lebanon is utterly refutable. For this connection basically developed through this very regime and by means of its conspiracies, intrigues, and bloodstained weapons. Does this regime want to tell us finally that Israel and the United States are pleased with the PLO and are now working to support it in this region?!

The logic of the Syrian rulers is brimming with evil, destruction, and madness, and at any rate, reveals the alarming confusion engulfing these rulers to the extent that they can no longer distinguish between friend and foe or learn lessons from any experience or battle. We at least, expected this regime to realize, even at the last moment, that the conspiracy to break the national Palestinian will will not bear fruit because, in essence, this is the will of the entire Arab people and of the human conscience.

We expected the Syrian leaders to grasp the events and experiments of the last 11 years in Lebanon comprising tragedies, massacres, and calamities. We expected Hafiz al-Asad to study the outcome of his mistakes with regard to his relations with Iran, the United States, and Western European countries.

We also expected him to comprehend, during these very days, the Soviet Union's signal to him — the Soviet Union which is receiving the Palestinian factions with open arms in Moscow so as to bolster and consolidate their decision to unite and stick together. However, our legitimate expectations are one thing, and the entire Syrian regime is another.

ALGERIA

President Receives GDR Party Delegation

LD022344 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Today at the presidency, Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and FLN secretary general, received Mr Gerhard Mueller, member of the Politburo [title as heard] of the SED [Socialist Unity Party of Germany] Central Committee and first secretary of the SED Erfurt area of the GDR.

The meeting was attended by Brother Larbi Belkheir, cabinet director at the presidency, and Brother Abderrazak Bouhara, member of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee in charge of external relations.

The delegation headed by Mr Mueller was also received by Mr Rabih Bitat, member of the Political Bureau and speaker of the National People's Assembly, and by Brother Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Political Bureau and official in charge of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee.

Joint Commission Meeting With Bulgaria Begins

LD021153 Algiers APS in English 1057 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Algiers, 02 Dec 86 (APS) — The works of the 16th session of the Algerian-Bulgarian joint commission for economic, scientific and technical cooperation started here yesterday under the co-chairmanship of Mohamed Rouighi, C.C member, minister of water resources, environment and forestries and Khristo Khristov, minister of commerce. Opening the session Mr. Rouighi pointed out that the holding of these traditional sittings are an important event for taking stock of the progress achieved and rising above the problems to further develop economic relations between the two countries.

The Bulgarian commerce minister focused on the considerable work achieved within the context of this joint commission. He noted however that there are still untapped potentialities. It would be our main concern after this session, he added.

The two ministers agreed that the expanding of Algerian-Bulgarian cooperation to other sectors is possible in view of the examplary political relations between the two countries.

Benamar Receives Khristov

LD021152 Algiers APS in Arabic 0800 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Algiers 2 Dec (APS) — Yesterday, Commerce Minister Mostefa Benamar received at the headquarters of his ministry Bulgarian Trade Minister Khristo Iliev Khristov.

The two sides to discussed bilateral trade relations. The two sides also expressed their will to expand and boost exchange to serve their common bilateral interests.

Bendjedid Receives Khristov

LD022308 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Excerpts] President Chadli Bendjedid has received Bulgarian Minister of Trade Khristo Khristov who handed him a message from Bulgarian President Todor Zhivkov. [passage omitted]

The Bulgarian minister was also received by Abdelhamid Brahimi, alternate member of the [FLN] Political Bureau and prime minister, and by Finance Minister Abdelaziz Khellef. [passage omitted]

LIBYA

'Masses' Celebrate Great Jamahiriyah Day

LD030025 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] The masses of the basic peoples congresses today celebrated the Day of the Great Jamahiriyah in the International Year for Peace. Our correspondent has sent us the following dispatch

The Producers General Congress today organized a great march for peace which went to the UN building in Tripoli. The masses of the great peace march declared their defiance of the arrogance of the crazy power which opposes peace in the world and which is led by Israel's rabid dog and the pillars of his administration who are the enemies of freedom and peace. In the speech delivered on this occasion, the masses praised the resolution of the international community that condemned the failed barbarous U.S.-NATO aggression against the people of the Great Jamahiriyah and that affirmed the right of the Libyan Arab people to claim compensation for the material and moral losses that resulted from that brutal aggression.

The speech expressed the Libyan Arab people's praise for the fraternal and friendly countries that voted for the condemnation resolution, which exposed the shameful practices against humanity and against the international peace march. The masses stressed their commitment to the maker of African peace, the one who triggered the Great 1 September Revolution, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. They stressed the need to continue this march toward international peace, and to support positively all the successful peace projects, from the resolution to remove all the military bases and evict the remnants of the Italian invaders, to toppling all the symbols of reaction and the symbols of the eras of treason and [word indistinct].

In their speech, the masses of the march called on the peoples of the world to follow the examples that emerged on the Arab land in Libya, and according to which the Libyan Arab people became the ruler and the master, because he established the first jamahiriyah in history, in which the people took over the authority, wealth, and arms.

The masses of the march hailed the brave stand by the invincible armed Libyan Arab people in the face of aggression by Israel's rabid dog. They downed his aircraft in the sea and forced the aggressors to run away.

The masses of the peace march stressed that they will continue their march for peace and will continue to cooperate with all peoples in supporting the international peace march.

On this occasion, the masses of the march issued a statement in which they stressed that the Great 1 September Revolution is an Islamic revolution and a revolution for peace, which rejects (?subjugation), the bonds of slavery, and the pillars of exploitation, and that it stems [words indistinct] and the establishment of strong relations between [words indistinct] until the establishment of the jamahiriyah regime everywhere as a final solution for the problems of man, and until the establishment of a new international regime in which all men are equal in opportunity, rights, and duties. The statement added that such a regime is a regime of final freedom from all tools of injustice, exploitation, and [word indistinct].

The statement stressed that the Great 1 September Revolution, the revolution of man everywhere, has given its evidence and presented its tangible efforts to construct a wall of international peace. It has freed the Libyan Arab man, politically, economically, and socially; it has put an end to foreign military bases; it has expelled the remnants of Italian invaders; and it has raised the identity of the Libyan Arab people within pan-Arabism through its concept of a state of comprehensive unity in response to the realities of an era that does not accept the weak among its ranks.

The statement added that the Great 1 September Revolution has presented a practical example for the establishment of a jamahiri society through the civilized premise of the new man who has authority, wealth, and arms, and it presented the Third International Theory with all its concepts as a result of the experiences of mankind. It is the guide to the end of chronic human problems.

The statement stressed that the Great Jamahiriyah has raised, is still raising, and will keep raising the banners of defiance in the face of the enemies of freedom and peace, and it has succeeded in achieving a material and moral victory over the camp of evil, represented by U.S. imperialism, the highest level of the crusading West European colonialism. The direct conflict with the evil imperialist camp reached its peak during the failed barbarous U.S.-NATO aggression against the Great Jamahiriyah on the direct orders of Israel's rabid dog, Reagan. The statement stressed that as the conflict has reached its peak, there is no alternative to dividing the world into two opposing camps: a camp for good and peace, with us as its vanguard, and a camp for evil. The statement called on the peoples of the Third World to take the initiative in that direction.

The statement addressed its thanks and gratitude to the members of the UN General Assembly who voted for the international community's condemnation of the failed barbarous U.S.-NATO aggression against the people of the Great Jamahiriyah because they have taken the side of right, justice, and peace.

The statement stressed its support for everything that serves the aims of man in spreading true peace, which is based on justice, equality, and ending slavery and exploitation.

The first lesson in all the educational institutions in the Great Jamahiriyah today was dedicated to the subject of international peace.

Algerian Heavy Industries Minister Ends Visit

LD022023 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Tripoli, 2 Dec (JANA) — Brother Lakhdar Bayou, secretary general of the Algerian Ministry of Heavy Industries, and his accompanying delegation left Tripoli at noon today after a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah lasting several days.

At Tripoli international airport, Brother Lakhdar made a statement to JANA's correspondent in which he stressed that this visit was agreed to after the visit to Algeria by staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud.

He said four projects were discussed: the aluminum project, the diesel motors project, the refrigerated boxes project, and the automobile project. We concentrated on these projects, he said, which will benefit the two fraternal countries, as a first step toward building an industrial bulwark for the greater Arab homeland.

At the end of his statement Brother Lakhdar expressed his and the delegation's gratitude for the hospitality which the Algerian delegation received during its presence in the Great Jamahiriyah.

MOROCCO

Protest in Ceuta, Communique from Mellila

LD021430 Rabat MAP in English 1231 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Madrid, Dec 2 (MAP) — Some six thousand Moslems gathered Saturday in front of the mosque of the Moroccan northern town of Ceuta still under Spanish rule to protest the juridical situation in which they may find themselves after the proposal of the Spanish Government made during the latest meeting of the joint commission.

The government offer consists in issuing a one year temporary card to any Moslem who might apply for Spanish citizenship. Those who do not wish to apply for the Spanish citizenship would be granted a ten year renewable card.

During the gathering Mohamed Ali, leader of the Sebta Moslem Association termed these proposals "juridical trifles". He affirmed that president of the Moslem community of Ceuta Ahmed Soubaire attempted last Saturday to deceive the town's Moslems when he said the Spanish Government proposal to issues identity cards to Moslems has no relation with the law on aliens.

He announced during the meeting the holding of a demonstration as soon as he gets an authorisation. The demonstration will gather all the Ceuta inhabitants, he added.

"We have suffered marginalization, racism and contempt during forty years of dictatorship. But I am sure, the Moslems, men, women and children included, are coming aware of their legitimate rights, progressively", he added.

There are in Ceuta two other Moslem associations in addition to that headed by Mohamed Ali, namely the newly created "Moslem Group" headed by Hassan Mohamed Yassin, and "The Moslem Community of Sebta" headed by Ahmed Soubaire.

A Feninine [as received] cell, affiliated to the Moslem community of Ceuta was created Saturday during a meeting at the association's headquarters.

In a press release circulated Saturday, the leader of the Moslem community of Mellila Ammar Duduh declared that "the Moslem people of Mellila is the legitimate owner of its land and fate. It accepts and encourages cohabitation with any other democratic community, but it does not allow and willl not allow to be regarded as a foreigner on its own land".

The communique added that the equality of rights of all those who live in Mellila "is an issue that cannot be negotiated" and henceforth "the Mellila citizen of Moroccan origin requests to be granted all civic rights, without exception".

Among these rights, the Moslem community demands the right to vote and rejects the temporary identity card which has been proposed to its members by the Spanish administration.

In Madrid, a spokesman of the Popular Coalition (opposition), Miguel Herrero de Minon Monday presented an urgent proposal to "force" a debate on the situation in Mellila, the Spanish news agency "EFE" reported.

The popular coalition on the same occasion addressed to the congress board a note in which it demands the inclusion of the proposal on the agenda of the plenary session of next Wednesday.

For the coalition's spokesman, "the growing deterioration of coexistence in Mellila is a fact which gets no clear and valid response on the part of the Spanish Government".

He also sees that the government should put an end to "the tentative applying of the legislation on aliens" to clarify "the relations with the Moslem community".

Belgian Foreign Minister Concludes Visit

LD021612 Rabat MAP in English 1201 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Rabat, Dec 2 (MAP) — Belgian Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans Monday wound up an official visit to Morocco by the conclusion of a maritime cooperation agreement with Moroccan minister of foreign affairs and cooperation Andellatif Filali.

At a press conference Monday evening in Rabat, Tindemans reviewed questions raised during talks with Moroccan officials, including the one-hour Royal Audience King Hassan II granted him Monday afternoon. "The sovereign's conception of issues shaking the world strongly impressed me," he said.

Concerning his talks with Mr Fiflali, the Belgian foreign minister said they covered the future of relations between Morocco and the European community in light of the upcoming Belgian chairmanship of the EEC's Ministers Council, Belgian efforts to defend and safeguard Morocco's interests, the situation of Moroccan workers and students in Belgium, the Sahara question, the Middle East crisis and East-West relations.

Bilateral relations, added Tindemans, were discussed at length, mainly questions relating to staff and vocational training, cultural cooperation and economic and financial cooperation in light of the "remarkable" development Morocco had known in this area.

Mr Tindemans, who had arrived here on Friday, also conferred with Premier Azzeddine Laraki and Speaker of the House of Representatives Ahmed Osman.

SUDAN

Sudan Supports Arab Foreign Ministers Meeting

JN021544 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1449 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Khartoum, 2 Dec (SUNA) — Sudan supports the PLO's call for an Arab foreign ministers meeting to discuss the situation in the Palestinian camps in Lebanon.

This was announced here today by Abu Raja'i, PLO representative in Khartoum, after meeting with Al-Sharif Zayn al-'Abidin al-Hindi, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Abu Raja'i praised Sudan's honorable stands on the Palestinian revolution and the crises facing the Palestinian people. He pointed out that he and the minister discussed relations between the Sudanese and Palestinian peoples, in addition to the war being waged against the Palestinian camps.

Abu Raja'i indicated that new parties — starting with the Zionist entity and ending with the Shi'ite Amal movement — are taking part in this war with the aim of liquidating these camps and deporting their inhabitants from the Zionist entity's security areas.

Information Protocol Signed With Egypt

NC022154 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1800 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 2 Dec (MENA) — [Egyptian] Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif and Sudanese Minister of Culture and Information Muhammad Tawfiq signed a protocol today on bilateral cooperation in the field of information. The signing took place during the final session of talks in Khartoum. This protocol will enhance Egyptian-Sudanese cooperation. It confirms the firm and unchanging characteristics of the special and distinguished relations between the two countries.

This cooperation protocol covers all aspects of work relating to radio, television, and domestic and foreign information. Khartoum's daily programming will be resumed via satellite. There will also be an exchange of television programs between the two countries. This new stage of information cooperation includes the promotion of joint radio and television projects, as well as an exchange of programs that will reflect the various activities of the two countries in an effort to deepen mutual understanding. [passage omitted]

Ugandan Says Differences With Sudan Solved

JN021607 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1458 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Nairobi, 2 Dec (SUNA) — Ibrahim Mukiibi, foreign minister of fraternal Uganda, has announced that all his country's differences with Sudan have been completely solved. In a statement broadcast by Ugandan radio this morning, Mukiibi said that the Khartoum government had no knowledge of what happened in the past.

Mukiibi said that his country had reached an absolute understanding with Sudan with regard to the Ugandan rebels who fled to southern Sudan, where they engaged on sabotage acts against their country.

The Ugandan Government accused the Sudanese Government last August of assisting the supporters of former President Tito Okello who fled to southern Sudan.

Foreign Minister Receives UN Relief Official

JN021552 Khartoum, SUNA in Arabic 1417 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Khartoum, 2 Dec (SUNA) — Al-Sharif Zayn al-'Abidin al-Hindi, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today received Shah Wali, official in charge of the UN emergency operations bureau in Sudan, who affirmed that the United Nations will continue to aid Sudan in the fields of relief and development.

Wali said that the meeting dealt with the aid to be provided by the emergency bureau and its contribution to coordinating relief operations in Sudan in cooperation with the relief agency.

Al-Hindi expressed Sudan's thanks for the United Nations' role and praised its relief aid.

Rebels Kill 14 Government Troops in Abyei Area

EA031003 (clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in Bari 1120 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Excerpt] Abyei — SPLA fighters in Abyei area under the overall command of Lieutenant Colonel Daniel Awet Akout assisted by Captain Natale Majok shot and killed many enemy soldiers only 4 miles outside Abyei town; 14 enemy soldiers were killed on the spot and many others were seriously wounded. The SPLA captured six guns, including five Kalashnikovs and one G-3, from the enemy. The enemy soldiers were forced to retreat to Abyei. [passage omitted]

Anya Nya II on Constitutional Conference

JN021110 Khartoum SUNA in English 1025 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Khartoum, Dec, 2 (SUNA) — Anya Nya -2- movement has called the Sudanese Government to commence immediately the constitutional conference to discuss various national issues. The movement has also rejected conformation of the peace Islamic-Coptic committee headed by the member of Supreme Council Idris al-Banna, the daily *Al-Siyasah* reported today.

Anya Nya -2- movement's Secretary General Assistant for Information and Arab Countries Affairs Lieutenant Colonel (Mohamed Shoul) told the paper that a big number of Garang's movement (SPLA) have the intention of giving up to the People's Forces, but, he said, they adopt the policy of wait and see due to the intention of the peace committee for negotiation with SPLA. He called the government to give more support to the people's forces and Anya Nya movement in order to strengthen their military movements in southern Sudan.

TUNISIA

Foreign Minister Interviewed by Kuwaiti Paper

JN021315 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 30 Nov 86 p 15

[Interview with Foreign Minister Hedi Mabrouk by unidentified correspondent in Tunis; date not given]

[Text] [Question] Do you believe that the relations of friendship that you are establishing with French political quarters are likely to persuade France to increase its aid to Tunisia to assist it in overcoming the stifling economic crisis it is now facing?

[Mabrouk] I am fully convinced of this. It is true we have good relations with the French political circles in general. We are also establishing good relations with the French media. This is a card which Tunisia will spare no effort in using to insure the success of its current efforts to revive the country's economy. The fact is France is now extending important and multifaceted assistance to us.

[Question] Some people believe that Tunisia is disappointed by its relations with the other Arab countries, and that it is anxious to gradually get closer to the Western world. Is that true?

[Mabrouk] Tunisia is an integral part of the Arab World, and it cannot feel disappointed with itself. It has always sought to strengthen its relations with the Arab brothers. It is essential that Tunisia not isolate itself but establish open bridges with the outside world, particularly the Western world on various political, economic, and cultural levels. However, Tunisia will not under any circumstances allow its relations with the West to undermine its Arab and Muslim affiliations.

[Question] As Tunisian ambassador to France you played a positive role in the negotiations to end the dispute between Tunisia and Libya. How far did the negotiations go?

[Mubrouk] They have borne fruit. The part of the negotiations held in Paris concentrated on the issue of the Tunisian airline company's assets frozen by Libya following the severence of relations between the two countries. These assets are estimated at 90 million francs.

As a result of the Paris negotiations a solution was found to the problem: The Libyan authorities pledged to pay part of the assets, while it was agreed that the other part will be paid later. Now we are trying to find solutions to the other Tunisian- Libyan differences. I am optimistic, indeed I am confident, that the two friendly peoples will meet again on the path of brotherhood and friendship in the near future.

[Question] Will relations between the two countries be normalized in the near future?

[Mabrouk] That basically depends on the desire of the Libyan Government and the speed with which outstanding disputes between the two countries are resolved.

[Question] It appears that the attempt to bring the Arab Maghreb countries closer to each other has now become one of the tenets of the new Tunisian diplomacy. If so, do you believe that such rapprochement will bear fruit in the short and medium term?

[Mabrouk] Human, historic, and economic necessity require the formation of Maghreb identity capable of responding to the aspirations of Maghreb youth and providing adequate guarantees for resolving the economic problems that exist in the Arab world today. I believe it is now difficult to crystallize such an identity politically for this requires constant work by many generations. As for the strengthening of economic and cultural relations among the Maghreb countries so as to achieve integration, this is a basic step that must be made as soon as possible. I believe that such a step can be made only under the canopy of solidarity among the peoples of the Arab Maghreb and with coordination among the leaders of the Maghreb countries. That is one of the current preoccupations of Tunisian diplomacy.

[Question] Many observers believe that Tunisia will be able to solve its problems only through adopting a democratic policy on all levels. To what extent do you think that the democratic line is an established fact in Tunisia?

[Mabrouk] Adherence to democratic principles is one of the characteristics of the Tunisians wherever they are. It suffices to note that President Habib Bourguiba dedicated his life to serving freedom in the country. However, we are obliged as, are many countries, to be more careful toward those who exploit this freedom to harm the higher interests of the homeland.

[Question] Many Tunisian politicians living in Europe, particularly in France, have noted through various channels, including the press, their desire to return to Tunisia. Can they return home without any measures being taken against them by the ruling authorities?

[Mabrouk] Every Tunisian citizen living abroad has the right to return home. But a Tunisian cannot claim this right if he committed a serious mistake against his homeland. Therefore, the political authority cannot give him guarantees in advance as long as the judicial authority has not yet considered his case. I believe that whoever is satisfied with his conduct toward his homeland should not fear returning home. Those who misbehaved toward Tunisia, will have to shoulder their responsibility.

[Question] Former Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali said in an exclusive statement with *Le Monde* recently that you always took the initiative to attack him, that you were behind the plot that toppled him from power and that you did so to take his position. How do you reply to this?

[Mabrouk] I was never a foe of Mohamed Mzali. On the contrary, I had friendly relations with him. I do not regret this relationship. But my duties as foreign minister forced me to answer him after he trampled on Tunisia's dignity through the statements he made to foreign press. I denounced such conduct. But I did not do this out of personal hatred or out of a desire to destroy him.

Mzali is undoubtedly mistaken when he says that I "destroyed" him in order to take his position. I would like to sieze this opportunity to stress officially that I did not consider myself as the possible successor of Mzali or anyone else in the pyramid of power. The whole matter is that I held the Foreign Ministry portfolio at the request of President Habib Bourguiba. I will do my utmost to live up to his expectations. I would like to stress that I am not in the list of candidates for the post of prime minister or successor to Bourguiba. I will give up the political arena absolutely when President Habib Bourguiba passes away. I hope that this day will be very far away. After that I will not play any political role in the government or in any political body of the state. I will be satisfied with being an ordinary citizen. I stress officially that I do not have any further political ambitions.

Sfar Receives Moroccan Interior Minister

LD022047 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Prime Minister Rachid Sfar received today at noon Moroccan Interior Minister Driss Basri, who is attending the 5th meeting of the Arab interior ministers' council in Tunis.

The meeting dealt with the existing relations of friendship and cooperation in all spheres between the two countries. The two sides have stressed their determination to bolster such relations and to establish them in a way that would contribute to the edifice of the Great Arab Maghreb in accordance with the instructions of both President Habib Bourguiba and King Hassan II.

The meeting was held in the presence of Tunisian Foreign Minister Hedi Mabrouk and Moroccan Ambassador to Tunis Abbas Fassi.

Former Prime Minister's Family Reported Tortured

LD022049 Paris International Service in French
1245 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] In Tunisia, several members of former prime minister Mohamed Mzali's family are reported to have been tortured.

This was affirmed by their Paris lawyer Jean-Pierre Lusson after his return from Tunis where he was present at their trial. According to him, the former prime minister's two sons, Rafik and Hatem Mzali, had been suspended by their ankles. Mohamed Mzali's brother-in-law and two other people are reported to have suffered the same torture, according to Lusson who complained about the trial procedures.

WESTERN SAHARA

Polisario Attacks Romanian Ship Arming Morocco

AU031058 Paris AFP in English 1041 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Text] Paris, Dec 3 (AFP) — The Polisario Front guerrilla movement said Wednesday its forces had attacked a Romanian trawler off the coast of Western Sahara, and accused Bucharest of supplying arms to Morocco.

The attack last month, claimed by the Polisario's representative in France Mohamed Sidati, was the first by the movement on interests of an eastern European country.

Wednesday's statement was also the first allegation by the Polisario that a country of the Soviet bloc, which is generally supportive of the guerrillas in their war against Morocco, had been delivering arms to Rabat.

The previously unreported incident was seen by observers as a warning to Bucharest by the Polisario. The delay in publicising it was interpreted as a sign of embarrassment on both sides.

Informed sources said the Romanian trawler had been sunk after it was fired on last November 8. Three members of the crew, taken off by another boat, were injured and hospitalised in Nouadibhou, Mauritania.

The trawlers belonged to a joint Romanian-Mauritanian fishing enterprise.

The Polisario claims the waters, land and air space of Western Sahara belong to the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic it has proclaimed. It says they are a war zone and boats, vehicles or aircraft entering are liable to be attacked.

ETHIOPIA

GDR Official Makes Statement at End of Visit

EA022314 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Comrade (Helmut Mehlmann) said today that he is very impressed by the great effort being made by peasant associations, established at various levels under the leadership of the WPE, to increase production. Comrade (Helmut Mehlmann), Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] Central Committee member and head of the party's agricultural research department, said this in a statement he gave prior to his departure at the end of a 1-week visit to revolutionary Ethiopia.

Comrade (Mehlmann) said that during his stay in the country he has been that members of peasant associations established at various levels are making unreserved efforts in order to strengthen the agricultural sector of the economy and that the leadership and support given by party committees in their respective areas have created favorable conditions for the success of these efforts. He disclosed that he held useful discussions on further strengthening the existing relations between the WPE and SED.

Cormade (Helmut Mehlmann) was seen off at Bole International Airport by WPE Central Committee Member Comrade (Abdul Aziz Yusuf).

Mengistu Greets PDRY, Lao Counterparts

EA031015 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0900 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, WPE Central Committee secretary general, PMAC chairman, and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, today sent a congratulatory message on the occasion of the PDRY's 59th anniversary of independence.

In his message to the leader of PDRY, Comrade Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, on behalf of the WPE Central Committee, people and government of revolutionary Ethiopia and on his own behalf, our comrade revolutionary leader expressed his confidence that the existing friendly relations between the two countries would be further strengthened, and wished peace and prosperity to the friendly people of Yemen and good health to comrade Abu Bakr al-'Attas.

In another development, Mengistu Haile Mariam today sent a congratulatory message to the party, people and government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic on the occasion of that country's 11th national day, to be celebrated tomorrow. In his message to Comrade Phoumi Vongvichit, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, on behalf of the WPE Central Committee, people and government of revolutionary Ethiopia and on his own behalf, our comrade revolutionary leader expressed his confidence that the country's people would achieve additional victories in their efforts to build a strong socialist country, through [words indistinct].

Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam affirmed that the existing relations between the two countries, based on proletarian internationalism, would be further strengthened in the future for the benefit of the two countries and progressive forces of the world and wished Comrade Phoumi Vongvichit good health and progress and prosperity to the brotherly people of Laos.

Reportage on Addis Ababa Trade Meeting

Kaunda, Museveni, Bagaza Arrive

EA022230 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Excerpts] Six heads of states and government arrived in Addis Ababa today to attend the fifth meeting of east and southern Africa Preferential Trade Area [PTA] leaders due to open tomorrow at Africa Hall. [passage omitted]

Zambian leader President Kenneth Kaunda, President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda, and President Jean-Baptiste Bagaza of Burundi have also arrived. [passage omitted]

Zimbabwe's Mugabe Arrives

MB022023 Harare Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, is the first head of state [as heard] to arrive in the Ethiopian capital to attend the (?first) meeting of the Preferential Trade Area Authority which begins tomorrow.

Comrade Mugabe was met at the [words indistinct] international airport by the Ethiopian head of state, Lieutenant Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam, and three high officials of the ruling (?Marxist) party. Also at the airport to welcome was the minister of lands, Comrade Richard Hove, and the ambassador to Ethiopia, Comrade Tichaona Jokonya, and the Preferential Trade Area executive secretary, Comrade Baxter Nomvete.

Comrade Mugabe is accompanied by the minister of foreign affairs, Dr Witness Mangwende, and the deputy minister of transport, Comrade Amina Hughes.

KENYA

President Receives Al-Qadhdhafi Message on Chad

EA030734 Nairobi KNA in English 1240 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Nairobi, 2 Dec — President Daniel Arap Moi today at State House, Nairobi, received a special message from Libyan Leader Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, on Chad. The message was delivered by the Libyan minister for public service, Mr Muhammad al-Mabruk. He was accompanied by the ambassador of Libya in Ethiopia, Mr Khalifa Bazelya, and the Libyan charge d'affaires, Mr Likyan. The minister for foreign affairs, Mr Elijah Mwangale, and the permanent secretary, Mr Bethwel Kiplagat, were also present.

SOMALIA

Foreign Affairs Official Returns From USSR Visit

EA030944 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] The Somali Democratic Republic minister of state for foreign affairs, Dr Mohamed Ali Hamud, and his delegation returned to the country today at the end of their visit to the Soviet Union. The minister of state told reporters that during his visit he held talks with Soviet leaders on bilateral relations in the political, economic and cultural fields. The two sides also exchanged views on international issues, including the Horn of Africa situation.

Challe Mohamed Ali Hamud added that the consultations took place in a constructive atmosphere and that he had invited the Soviet deputy minister for foreign affairs to visit Somalia and that the invitation had been accepted. The delegation was received at the airport by officials from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

Radio Halgan: Siad Receives Aid Through 'Lies'

EA012045 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1700 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] The so-called minister, Italy's deputy foreign minister Francesco Forte, who is also responsible for so-called emergency aid to developing countries, was recently in Mogadishu where he met Dictator General Mohamed Siad Barre and the man responsible for the regime's foreign affairs. He was ostensibly there to help people living in so-called refugee camps or victims of natural disasters, whose wealth and property Siad has destroyed and in whose name he begs from the international community. He also uses the assistance given to them as a political weapon to suppress the people opposing his fascist rule.

He has made a habit of creating nonexistent organizations and agencies like the newly formed Somali Orphan Society which placed patients in hospitals when the American Muslim Organization delegation visited. Dictator Siad Barre has made a habit of making baseless claims. He used to deny his sole responsibility for the 1977 war. He did not feel ashamed of lying to the OAU members and the United Nations. He also lied about the aid given to the victims of the 1974 famine.

Reports add that it is impossible for him to get assistance from the international community and organizations except through lies.

TANZANIA

Executive Committee Endorses Economic Measures

EA022157 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Excerpt] Dar es Salaam — The [party] National Executive Committee [NEC] has praised President Ali Hassan Mwinyi's government for the measures taken in the last 12 months to revamp the national economy and to promote goodneighborliness.

In an official statement, the NEC expressed satisfaction with the measures taken by President Mwinyi to reorganize the economy, adding that the people now appreciate the measures. It noted that there are positive signs of recovery. The statement said that both food and cash crop production have increased, although the situation in the international market is still poor, particularly with regard to essential crops.

The NEC said that the perennial shortage of foreign exchange has continued, although it has been solved to a certain extent after the government reached agreement on several issues with the IMF.

On foreign policy, the NEC said President Mwinyi and his government have taken measures to promote goodneighborliness, participate in OAU affairs, and defend international peace.

The NEC said the achievements of the government in the second phase are an inspiration to the people. [passage omitted]

BENIN

GDR Party Delegation Concludes Visit 1 Dec

AB021102 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] A delegation of the GDR Socialist Unity Party left Cotonou early this afternoon. It began a working and friendly visit to our country a week ago. At the VIP lounge of Cotonou International Airport the leader of the delegation, Johannes Chemnitzer, told pressmen that he was very satisfied with the visit.

[Begin Chemnitzer recording in German followed by French translation] First of all I would like to take this opportunity to express our warmest thanks for the excellent hospitality we received. Conditions were very favorable for us to learn about the life of your people and country. We are very happy for the opportunity to meet Beninese President Kerekou, to whom we conveyed the warm regards of Comrade Erich Honecker, secretary general of our Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State.

We are returning home enriched by all our talks and experiences here. Our comrades informed us during our visit about the second ordinary congress of your party and explained the activities of the party in the [words indistinct]. During this historic visit, we learned about your country's history and culture. We are certain that your people, under the guidance of the Beninese People's Revolutionary Party, will have a very happy future. We noted the similarity in the views of our two parties in the ideological and political spheres. We will make every effort to strengthen cooperation between our two parties. Our two parties will jointly contribute to efforts to promote disarmament and detente on a world scale.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish the friendly Beninese people happiness and good health. [end recording]

GHANA

Official Receives Visiting GDR Party Delegation

AB022052 Accra Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 2 Dece 86

[Text] A member of the PNDC, Ebo Tawiah, has said that opportunities exist under the economic recovery program for all friendly countries to participate meaningfully in the Ghanaian economy. Mr Ebo Tawiah stated this during a meeting with a 2-member delegation from the Socialist Unity Party, SED, of the German Democratic Republic at his office at the Castle, Osu. He told the delegation that as much as it is imperative for Ghana and the GDR to strengthen relations, it is equally important for the revolutionary organs of the two countries to collaborate. The PNDC member said cooperation could also involve the working class of the two countries, since there are a lot of experiences to be shared. The leader of the delegation, Mr (Screinistang) said the GDR has a lot of sympathy for Ghana, and it is ever ready to help toward the economic and political development ofithe country. The delegation, which is on a week's visit to the country, was accompanied to the Castle by the GDR ambassador to Ghana, Franz Everhart.

LIBERIA

Sherman Replaces Kpoto as NDPL Chairman

AB021732 Monrovia Domestic Service in English
1200 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] There has been a surprising new development in Liberia's ruling political party, the National Democratic Party of Liberia [NDPL]. Mr Keikura Kpoto, the man regarded as the voice of the party, has been dropped from the chairmanship of the party. He has been replaced by Ms (Miata) Sherman, a staunch supporter of the NDPL.

No immediate reasons have been given for Mr Kpoto's dismissal from the party's chairmanship, which came during an emergency meeting of the NDPL yesterday. The meeting was attended by the party's standard bearer, Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe. It is widely believed that Mr Kpoto, who led the NDPL to victory in the 1985 October general elections as chairman, may have been relieved of the position amidst growing resentement over his style of leadership.

When contacted by reporters, Mr Kpoto angrily responded and we quote him: Where did you send me that I should brief you? Yesterday Mr Kpoto was quoted by the *Daily Star* newspaper as saying that he had abandoned all other activities, including his farm work in Lofa County, to give the NDPL a vulcanic victory in the ensuing general, municipal, and legislative by-elections, saying: We would give no seat in Monrovia to the opposition.

The NDPL chairman, Ms (Miata) Sherman, has now promised to address hereself to some crucial issues of the party. She has asked partisans of the NDPL to give her their fullest support and cooperation as she undertakes her new assignment. Ms Sherman previously served as chairperson of the women's wing of the NDPL.

Agreements With Romania Signed in Monrovia

AB012222 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2000 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Liberia and Romania have signed a series of agreements covering a number of projects identified by the two countries during (?10) days of bilateral and economic talks in Monrovia. The projects were identified in agriculture, mining, transportation, forestry, finance, and planning while appropriate technicians from both countries were urged to undertake studies on a number of others.

Speaking after the signing ceremony at the Commerce Ministry today, the leaders of the Liberian and Romanian delegations, Mrs Mcleod Darpoh and (Constantin Tusanu), expressed satisfaction for the talks and pledged their countries' fullest support for the implementation of the agreements. Mrs Darpoh, who is also Liberia's minister of commerce, transportation, and industry, lauded the leaders of both countries for their interest to improve the living conditions of their respective peoples, and noted that the present discussions between the two countries have proved very successful. Mrs Darpoh assured that as a result of the discussions Liberia could look forward to increase agricultural production in the future. Mrs Darpoh later congratulated members of the Romanian delegation for their patient understanding and cooperation leading to the successful conclusion of the talks.

In response, Mr (Tusanu), who is also councillor at the Ministry of Mines, Oil, and Geology of Romania, praised the Liberian Government for the kind hospitality accorded his delegation since their arrival in the country and pledged his country's support to Liberia's development efforts. Mr (Tusanu) then lauded the friendly ties between Liberia and Romania and said his country will exert every effort to further strengthen these ties in the interest of both governments and peoples.

Meanwhile, the 9-member Romanian trade delegation departs Liberia later today at the end of what everybody has described as a very successful visit to Liberia.

MALI

Foreign Minister Comments on Iran Trip

AB021305 Bamako Domestic Service in French
1500 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Excerpt] The Islamic Republic of Iran could help Mali benefit from its experience in agriculture and the fight against desert encroachment. This is one of the conclusions that can be drawn from the official visit the minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation has just made to Iran. Mr Modibo Keita, who accepted an invitation from his Iranian counterpart, Dr Ali Akbar Velayati, was accompanied by National Assembly Member El Hadj Sekou Cisse and officials from the Foreign Ministry. Mr Modibo Keita made a statement to Oumar Toure.

[Begin recording][Keita] During our visit, we held fruitful discussions, and we had the honor to be granted an audience by the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, to whom we delivered a message from the secretary general of the Democratic Union of Malian People, General Moussa Traore. We were also received by the speaker of the Iranian Majlis and the prime minister. We also had working sessions with the ministers of foreign affairs, agriculture, and oil and representatives of the Iranian Red Crescent Society. During our stay, we examined ways and means to strengthen bilateral cooperation. It seems that the Islamic Republic of Iran could help Mali benefit from its experience in agricultural development and the fight against desert encroachment. We therefore decided that an Iranian delegation of top-level experts would come to Mali to examine on the spot the best conditions in which Iran could assist our country. We also discussed the possibility of cooperation in the fields of education and health so as to promote primary health care, which is a priority in our country. We also discussed the possibility of setting up effective cooperation in the fields of mineral research, geology, and oil. Since Iran is an oil-producing country, our experts could approach that country to determine the conditions needed for it to supply oil to Mali. I must add that our talks were very fruitful and that our Iranian partners were very understanding and prepared to assist us.

[Toure] Mr Minister, Iran is at war, and you recently visited it. What impressions did Tehran, the capital city, give you?

[Keita] Well you know, by its nature Mali is highly concerned about any hotbed of tension. Mali is therefore worried by the war between Iran and Iraq — two Muslim countries — first of all as an African state that is a member of the Islamic Conference and also of the Nonaligned Movement. We therefore hope that our warring brothers will close that chapter and cooperate on a fraternal basis for the welfare of their respective peoples.

[Toure] Mr Minister, during your visit in Iran, did you discuss with Iranian officials the possibility of a mediation in the war between Iran and Iraq?

[Keita] You know that Mali has traditionally played a mediation role everytime it has been asked to do so, and if that was the desire of one of the warring partners, Mali would not spare any effort. But we have not explicitly determined the conditions of a mediation by our country. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Algerian Minister Meets Traore, Comments

AB012232 Bamako Domestic Service in French
1500 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Excerpts] President Moussa Traore, secretary general of the Democratic Union of Malian People [UDPM], this afternoon received Algerian Foreign Minister Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, who has been visiting our country within the framework of the sixth session of the Algerian-Malian Joint Commission for Cooperation. The talks touched on the exemplary cooperation between our two countries, which is based on the long-standing multifaceted relations between our two brotherly peoples.

In this connection, Dr Taleb Ibrahimi expressed happiness at the willingness and desire of our two parties, the UDPM and the FNL, and our two governments to strengthen our relations in furtherance of the spirit of solidarity. The talks also touched on the situation in Africa and the Arab world and on the need for developping countries to join efforts to reduce the adverse effects of the world economic crisis. [passage omitted]

After the audience, the Algerian minister was interviewed by Oumar Toure:

[Begin recording][Taleb Ibrahimi] I was in Bamako not long ago. Once again I am here and have just had the honor of being received by President Moussa Traore. Incidentally, I will observe that I often come to Bamako and would like for my counterpart and colleague to reciprocate; I would be very happy to recieve him in Algiers. [Words indistinct] the good relations between Algeria and Mali. This time, my visit falls within a more limited framework since I am here to jointly preside over the sixth session of the Algerian-Malian Joint Commission. This is why our talks will touch more on bilateral than on international questions. I think that in the past few days our respective aides have worked hard on all the dossiers. This afternoon or tomorrow, my counterpart and friend, Modibo Keita, and I are going to sign the minutes of this sixth session.

According to me, the major points include the issue of the Trans-Saharan Highway. It was a mere topic of discussions some decades ago but it has now become a reality. We are left with only the last portion to be completed.

Another point is the Malian-Algerian border, which we must transform into (?border towns). Malians and Algerians have already prepared plans and we are on the verge of setting up such centers so our border will rather be a passage point than a barrier. We will also examine our trade and cultural relations. When the minutes are published tomorrow morning, you will acquaint yourself with all the points, of which I have just mentioned a few.

In conclusion, I would like to emphasize the good relations between Algeria and Mali. This is so both at the level of our bilateral relations and on the international front, where Mali and Algeria are always on the same side.

[Toure] Mr Minister, you have just mentioned trade relations. It is evident that the political relations between Algeiers and Bamako are excellent. Will our trade relations be enhanced likewise?

[Taleb Ibrahimi] We are leaving no stone unturned to enhance our trade relations to the same extent. We are not starting from scratch. Something has already been done. But we are not yet satisfied with this, so we must achieve even more. [end recording]

NIGERIA

ANC's Tambo Warns Government of RSA 'Threat'

AB021608 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] The president of the African National Congress, ANC, Mr Oliver Tambo, has advised the Federal Government to take seriously the threat by South Africa to attack Nigeria militarily. Mr Tambo told newsmen in Lagos today that Nigeria should be ready to meet such an aggression, because the Botha regime was desperate enough to carry out the threat. He said Nigeria's support for the liberation struggle in southern Africa and the fact that Nigeria has the capacity to make a difference in the situation there exposed her to the South African aggression. The ANC leader cited the death of Mozambican President, Mr Samora Machel, in a plane crash after threats on his life by the racist regime.

Mr Tambo said there was no doubt that Mr Machel was murdered by South Africa because there had been reports from the media more than a week before the plane crash that Pretoria would eliminate him.

He disclosed that there was now reliable information that the South African Government is threatening to assassinate President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia and Prime Minister Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe. According to the information, the ANC leader is also on the list of prominent leaders to be eliminated. Mr Tambo said the ANC takes these threats seriously and will advise others to do the same.

On the recent withdrawal of some multinational companies from South Africa, the ANC president said that their actions could only have a [word indistinct] effect on the racist economy if they were concentrated within a short period of time. According to him, scattered withdrawals without concerted efforts by the companies concerned can hardly weaken South Africa, just like uncoordinated application of sanctions cannot work. Mr Tambo said he was in Nigeria to renew his earlier request for military and financial assistance from the Federal Government toward the armed struggle.

During his meeting with President Ibrahim Babangida earlier in the day, the ANC leader was assured of Nigeria's continued assistance for the movement to enable it to intensify the liberation war. Mr Tambo told President Babangida that the morale of freedom fighters in the racist enclave is high despite increased detentions and arrests. He said that the emergency laws being enforced by the Botha regime [words indistinct] of the struggle.

Mr Tambo also briefed President Babangida on the situation in Mozambique, which he described as delicate. He said that President Chissano of Mozambique needed more support from Africa and other friendly nations to overcome the South African-backed rebel group. Mr Tambo leaves Lagos today after a 3-day official visit to Nigeria.

TOGO

Financial Agreements Signed With France

AB012125 Lome Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Excerpt] Four financial agreements and an additional clause totalling 595 million CFA francs were signed today in Lome between our country and France. The documents were signed for Togo by Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Minister Atsou Koffi Amegah and for France by French Ambassador to Togo Georges-Marie Chenu. [passage omitted]

ANGOLA

Dos Santos: 'Main Efforts' Concentrated on UNITA

AU021319 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 28 Nov 86 p 2

[Interview given by Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the MPLA-Labor Party and the People's Republic of Angola, to Dezso Pinter, head of a section at *Magyar Hirlap*, in Luanda: "Angola — in the Midst of Battle" — date not given; first paragraph is newspaper's introduction]

[Text] Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the MPLA-Labor Party and the People's Republic of Angola [PRA], gave an interview in Luanda to a head of a section at *Magyar Hirlap*, who has been reporting from the Angolan capital on the second session of the joint Hungarian-Angolan Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technological cooperation.

[Pinter] What difficulties must be faced by the PRA to safeguard and increase its security? What tendency has become apparent in the battle against external threats and domestic counterrevolutionary forces?

[Santos] The PRA is a victim of the undeclared war of aggression carried out by the regular Armed Forces of the racist Republic of South Africa, the lackeys serving them, and UNITA's [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] gangs. In the interest of safeguarding its territorial inviolability and economic establishments, and maintaining the security of its people, the PRA is improving its economy and its defensive military capability. Our main efforts will concentrate on the armed banditry of the puppet movement financed by Pretoria until we reach a stable political, military, and economic situation. The aim of this movement is to terrorize the population, block economic and social reconstruction, create an atmosphere of anxiety and chaos, and kill the revolution.

Under the leadership of the MPLA-Labor Party, the vanguard of our people will courageously face the difficult situation provoked in our country by racist South Africans. The enemy was given a decisive answer, and we have completely upset the plans and aims of the racists and their lackeys. We have achieved considerable victories, and as a result we have recently reduced to a great extent the activities of the puppet movement in the interior of the country. This success reflects the firm determination of our people to unite in a more organized manner for protecting their achievements.

Parallel to the constant struggle against the armed gangs of UNITA, we make efforts in the economy to increase the production of vital commodities, satisfy the needs of the people, and improve thier living conditions. Due to the offensive war of aggression, which has caused us not only serious financial damage but also great losses in human lives, we were, unfortunately, unable to fulfill our economic program completely and at the stipulated date. A large number of people have died, have become war invalids, or have escaped from their homes. In addition, we must mobilize a lot of cadres to support the priority aims of national defense. The military and economic destabilization in our country is the work of external forces who use UNITA's gangs as their puppets and tools. In reality, these armed gangs are nothing else but the extended arms of the South African regular forces, because these puppets are not independent and would not be able to wage a war without vital help from the racist Republic of South Africa. Our people crushed the armed gangs of UNITA who were in the past united with the colonizers of Portugal. Their activity had practically ceased months before we declared our independence. They were revived by the racist regime, and they have been used ever since as an extension of its regular forces for destabilizing Angola and attacking SWAPO forces or Namibian refugees.

This is why we declared that the so-called Angolan issue is not an internal problem of Angola, but a problem created by South Africa and resulting from the aggressive and fascist nature of the apartheid regime.

Honest Initiatives [subhead]

[Pinter] What role can be assumed by the PRA in the just struggle for a lasting peace in the southern part of the African Continent?

[Dos Santos] In our view, a lasting and just peace can only come about in the southern part of Africa if the apartheid system is abolished, because this is the only reason for the war in the region.

At the same time, our view is that if Namibia gained independence according to the UN Security Council resolution 435/78, it would contribute to lessening the political tension of this region of our continent, and to finding a comprehensive and peaceful solution to the regional problems of southern Africa.

Due to this principle, the Angolan Government has made several honest and constructive proposals for creating an atmosphere of confidence among the sides concerned with the conflicts of the southern Africa region and with attaining peace, a deeply desired goal.

As is well-known, the racist South African regime has been trying to justify the constant and illegal occupation of Namibia with the presence of Cuban internationalist units in Angola. This reasoning is part of the delaying tactics of the racist Republic of South Africa. In fact, the regime shows no signs of considering a political settlement of the Namibia issue. We have tried to be most flexible and submitted proposals to the UN secretary general on negotiation and, of course, considering the basic interests of Angola as a sovereign state — we promised a phased withdrawal of the Cuban troops from southern Angola within 36 months.

Unfortunately, these initiatives of the Angolan Government were inadequately received by the government of the racist Republic of South Africa, which has continued its aggressions against the PRA from the territory of occupied Namibia. On the other hand, we have witnessed a growing hostility of the Government of the United States of America toward our country, and what is more, it decided to provide significant military and financial support to the UNITA puppets. In spite of this, we have renewed our diplomatic efforts to find more suitable ways for solving the urgent problems of southern Africa by just, honest, and peaceful means.

Austerity Measures [subhead]

[Pinter] What are the most important tasks in the Angolan economy which can be fulfilled in the present difficult situation?

[Santos] Recently, the general crisis in the world economy considerably affected our economy, and this has been further increased by the sharp drop in oil prices. This has caused a decrease in our foreign exchange from the commodity that is our main source of income.

In order to solve the difficult situation as soon as possible, the leaders of our party have set an urgent task for the present: the introduction of austerity measures. This includes banning unnecessary expenses, creating conditions for higher revenues by increasing production of new goods and their diversification, and by developing agriculture.

In this respect we decided that it is a priority to develop agriculture, animal husbandry, the food industry, and the sectors guaranteeing the operation of bodies in national defense and domestic safety, and to increase food production. This refers to creating conditions that will enable a steady trade, the reconstruction of infrastructures necessary for undisturbed production, and to an improvement in public health and education.

On the other hand, regarding the difficulties resulting from the drastic drop in our hard currency reserves, we have taken various steps to reschedule our foreign debts.

Friendship and Cooperation [subhead]

[Pinter] How do you see the development of Hungarian-Angolan relations?

[Dos Santos] The friendship and cooperation between our country and the Hungarian People's Republic had developed a long time ago, even before the declaration of our independence on 11 November 1975. The roots of these go back to the time of our war of independence, and they grew stronger ever since for the benefit of our peoples, our parties, and our governments.

We may say that our cooperation with Hungary has considerably increased and contributed to the process of national reconstruction.

At the same time we think that there are other untapped resources which would create an opportunity for increasing the mutually advantageous cooperation. This has also been revealed in Luanda, at the recently held session of the joint Hungarian-Angolan Commission on Economic, Scientific, and Technological cooperation. The participants of the joint commission were given the tasks of exploring and realizing these resources, and I am sure that they will endeavor to successfully accomplish their tasks.

MPLA Issues Statement on Anniversary

MB021610 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Statement issued by the MPLA-Labor Party Political Bureau on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of its foundation and the 9th anniversary of its constitution as a labor party in Luanda on 1 December]

[Excerpts] The Angolan people and the MPLA-Labor Party militants will celebrate yet another anniversary of the foundation of the MPLA and its constitution as a party on 10 December. [passage omitted]

Since its constitution on 10 December 1977, the MPLA-Labor Party has sought to create conditions permitting revolutionary transformations related to our reality of life, which is the People's democratic revolution. The MPLA-Labor Party represents the working and peasant classes' most legitimate interests and it exerts a democratic and revolutionary dictatorship in order to neutralize internal and external reactionary actions — in the context of heightening the class struggle — and consistently pursue a policy of national unity based on the alliance of social classes and layers which are interested in the triumph of the revolution. [passage omitted]

Regarding Angola's defensive capabilities, the MPLA-Labor Party Political Bureau proudly recognizes that our armed forces have selflessly and [words indistinct] fulfilled the sacred duty of defending our fatherland, (?thus thwarting) the tactical and strategic objectives of the South African invaders and their lackeys who have suffered considerable defeats.

Angolan people, comrades, and compatriots: The MPLA-Labor Party, as the class party, represents the workers and peasants' most legitimate interests. We have a duty to lead the struggle for national unity. Thus we must fight mercilessly against all threats to the party's and the people's unity by defending the workers' interests.

Defense of national unity also includes the policy of clemency which was decreed and (?successfully) implemented by the MPLA-Labor Party since 1978 in order to allow all Angolans — without exception — to participate with all their knowledge and energy in the national reconstruction of Angola. This policy of clemency should be viewed as a factor promoting the strengthening of national unity as well as harmonizing life in Angolan society. [passage omitted]

Angolan people, comrades, and compatriots: The People's Republic of Angola is a peace-loving country. At the level of its foreign policy, the People's Republic of Angola has sought to observe universally accepted principles, [words indistinct] the strengthening of peace, freedom, independence, and the people's social progress.

In the last few years, the main thrust of our work in foreign policy has centered mainly on the problems affecting southern Africa with the principal objective of securing the withdrawal of the South African forces from southern Angola — where they have been since 1981 — guaranteeing Namibia's independence process, contributing together with other countries in the international community for the eradication of the apartheid system and the establishment of a democratic government in South Africa, resulting in the establishment of lasting peace in southern Africa. In this context, the MPLA-Labor Party Political Bureau reiterates that our party and government's stance has always been clear and in accordance with the spirit, letter, charter, and pertinent resolutions of the United Nations: the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the South African forces occupying a portion of the Angolan territory, the immediate implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 435/78 leading to Namibia's true independence, and the cessation of South African aggression against Angola as well as all logistical support for the UNITA armed bandits.

[Words indistinct] the MPLA-Labor Party Political Bureau is following with deep concern attempts by some Western powers, especially the United States, to promote the Angolan puppets in the international community as interlocutors as a basis for the attainment of peace in southern Africa, while trying to hide their nature as an appendage of the South African regular army. The MPLA-Labor Party Political Bureau also rejects in a clear and unequivocal manner all pressures aimed at forcing us to negotiate with the puppets, who are the (?main sources) of destabilization and terrorism against the Angolan Government and people.

As Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos said in Malanje recently, on the occasion of the 11th anniversary of national independence, Angola is an independent state which intends to preserve its territorial integrity. All veiled or open attempts in that direction are a waste of time.

The MPLA-Labor Party Political Bureau reaffirms that the apartheid regime is the main source of political, economic, and social instability in Southern Africa and believes that the solution for the problems in the region is linked to the abolition of the hideous apartheid regime whose existence is a crime against mankind and an obstacle to Namibia's independence based on UN Security Council Resolution 435/78. The Political Bureau reiterates its support for the heroic struggle which is being waged by the South African and Namibian patriots, led respectively by the ANC and SWAPO. It rejects the U.S. policy of constructive engagement which aims at reforming the apartheid regime through cosmetic changes which do not affect the political and social foundations of that anachronistic system. It also rejects categorically all attempts to link Namibia's independence to elements which are alien to the decolonization process of Namibia whish is illegally occupied by the racist Pretoria regime.

The MPLA-Labor Party Political Bureau hereby reaffirms the principles of the foreign policy of the People's Republic of Angola, which are: Nonalignment, respect for sovereignty, noninterference in the internal affairs of other states, cooperation, and peaceful coexistence. The MPLA-Labor Party Political Bureau energetically condemns the policy of state terrorism as carried out by international imperialism and belives that only the scrupulous observance of the fundamental principles of contemporary international law in international relations can constitute the basis for the development of harmonious relations between [words indistinct].

The MPLA-Labor Party Political Bureau has noted that all the flexibility shown by the People's Republic of Angola toward establishing a platform of understanding among the parties which are really involved in the process leading to peace in southern Africa was deliberately and (?irremediably) ignored both by the South African Government and the Reagan administration, which presented unacceptable arguments in order to break South Africa's diplomatic and economic isolation and impose [words indistinct] which will ensure the survival of the apartheid regime and a bigger involvement by the United States in Angola's internal affairs.

The MPLA-Labor Party is acutely aware of the complexity of the international situation and its repercussions in southern Africa, and it reiterates that the People's Republic of Angola has always shown great willingness to enter constructive dialogue aimed at the peaceful resolution of southern Africa's problems. [passage omitted]

Because of its choice of developing along socialist lines, the People's Republic of Angola is the permanent target of aggression by international imperialism which, through the actions of South Africa — the imperialist bastion in Africa — carries out plans of destabilization aimed at destroying our party and our people's revolution. The constant aggressions against our national territory of which a part is still occupied by the racist Pretoria regime's forces, are also the result of the unconditional support that we give to the liberation struggle of the oppressed Namibian and South African people, in observance of international community's pertinent resolutions in that regard. [passage omitted]

MPLA CC Issues Statement After Session

MB021028 Dakar PANA in French 1530 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Luanda, 1 Dec (ANGOP/PANA) — The MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee has vehemently condemned the racist South African regime and the policy of the Reagan administration toward Nicaragua. This appears in a statement issued at the end of the 18th ordinary session of the Central Committee held in Luanda from 26 to 29 November.

In this statement, the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee expressed its support for the efforts developed by the Contadora Group to find a peaceful and negotiated solution to problems in Central America and reaffirmed its solidarity with the peoples in Africa, the Middle East, Asia, and Latin America who are still struggling to achieve independence, peace and social progress.

The MPLA has voiced its concern for the failure of the Reykjavik talks between CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

The Angolan party has reiterated its unwavering solidarity with the struggle of the Namibian and South African peoples under the leadership of SWAPO and the ANC, respectively. The MPLA has also noted that the increase in terrorist and aggressive actions by Pretoria is aimed at terrorizing the southern Africa peoples.

On the issue of death of Mozambican President Samora Machel, the Central Committee reiterated its high respect for the memory of the distinguished head of state Samora Moises Machel.

The Central Committee also hails the Mozambican people for the manner in which they faced that difficult moment and hailed President Joaquim Alberto Chissano for his election as chairman of the Frelimo Party and presdient of the People's Republic of Mozambique.

UNITA Claims Killing 171 Government Soldiers

AU030751 Paris AFP in English 0403 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Text] Lisbon, Dec 3 (AFP) — The Angolan rebel movement UNITA said Tuesday it had killed 171 government soldiers in operations in four provinces from November 18-28. It said it had attacked supply columns in Zaire, Benguela, Moxico and Malange Provinces. In the Malange attack, the guerrillas destroyed 80,000 litres (16,800 gallons) of fuel. UNITA (Union for the Total Independence of Angola) said that in Zaire province to the north-west it had "liberated" 2,000 villagers when it took Beca Monteiro last Friday.

Cubans Retaliate For Attacks with Amputations

MB030849 (Clandestine) KUP in French to Southern and Central Africa 0600 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Text] Free Land of Angola (KUP) [no date as received] — At Huambo's hospitals, Cuban Majors Brito and Santoya are amputating the upper and lower limbs of Angolans who could undergo normal treatment. This was revealed to KUP by sergeant Aurelio Queiros Kaley, former chief of Huambo central hospital's orthopedic department, in the 4th Military region.

The interviewee told KUP that these unnecessary amputations are often carried out when UNITA attacks Cuban units stationed at Huambo. He referred to specific instances, including retaliation for the remote controlled detonation of a vehicle loaded with explosives in the Cuban civilian quarters at Huambo, and for Cubans who were wounded in UNITA's attack on Calenga.

Majors Brito and Santoya have not been able to hide their anger. The frequent amputations they carry out on the FAPLA wounded also show that they hate seeing their Cuban brothers die in Huambo's hospital for the sake of MPLA interests.

Addition to Dos Santos on National Prospects

The following passages were originally omitted from the item headlined "Dos Santos Interviewed on National Prospects" published on page U 1 of the 1 December issue of the Middle East & Africa DAILY REPORT. Inclusion of these passages provides the full text of the interview.

Insert the following passage in left column before paragraph one on page U 1.

[Text] [Reporter] What are the powers and responsibilities of the president of the republic within the MPLA and the Angolan Government? Up to what level is the president of the republic responsible for Angola's present policy and situation?

[Dos Santos] The responsibilities of the president of the republic are defined in the constitution of the People's Republic of Angola. The responsibilities of the chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party are defined in the MPLA-Labor Party statutes. Obviously, under the terms of our laws, the chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party is automatically president of the People's Republic of Angola. On the other hand, the president of the republic is the commander in chief of the armed forces. Accordingly, the president of the republic carries out the policy defined by the MPLA-Labor Party. We draw up our policy collectively. Thus, naturally, the question of individual, personal responsibility or responsibility by a single citizen or leader does not arise. In other words, essential decisions connected with our country's political, economic, and social life are made collectively at party level. With regard to the implementation of this policy by the state apparatus, the government also approves laws and decrees collectively. It is only at the ministerial level that the ministers are responsible for the implementation of the policy generally defined by the party and transformed into legal documents by the People's Assembly and Congresses. In brief, all I want to say is that one can never say that the present situaiton of the People's Republic of Angola is the responsibility of one single person. We are a democratic and popular state; and when I referred to the party, I meant that the general guidelines for economic and social development and the guidelines of our party's foreign policy are approved during congresses.

I should also like to mention that, in our case, there is one particular point that we must take into account. Although the guidelines are drafted by the party, the discussion of all such drafts is open to, extended to, and conducted by all the people, all Angolan workers. Accordingly, these general guidelines approved in congresses are then implemented by the executive organs at party and state levels. We demand personal or individual accountability when the citizens charged with their implementation fail. This happens during the mandate of every head or leader. In my case, I can only be held responsible for a failure or shortcoming if I do not carry out tasks assigned to me by the party leadership or the People's Assembly.

Insert the following passage before paragraph one, right column.

In another way, let us take the case of Italy. Perhaps it will be better understood. To accept such a policy would be to admit that the Red Brigades, for example, would be accepted as a party by the various parties dominating the Italian political scene. It would also mean that the French state, the French Government, would consider as a valid party the so-called Action Directe and accept negotiations for their participation in the government. Thus, we think that here it is a matter of principles. We are an internationally recognized government and cannot allow other countries to organize Angolan citizens and train and supply them with weapons of destruction. I think that to accept this position would mean to act against one of the fundamental principles governing the international community. In brief, it would be to accept anarchy and disorder.

Insert the following passage on page U 2, left column after paragraph one, last line.

[Reporter] Mr President: One of the biggest indictments against UNITA is that (?it receives support and) military aid [words indistinct] otherwise it would rapidly disappear. However, could not the enemies of Angola say the same about the power of the MPLA?

[Dos Santos] No, because this is not about the power of the MPLA. This is about the Angolan people's power. We are a state with legal institutions. We are a state with institutions. I can even say that we are a nation. It is not, therefore, possible to compare a state with a group, or a political group. It is not even possible to compare a state with a party. Thus, when we establish relations with other countries we do it on the basis of the principles governing relations among independent and sovereign states. It is on this basis, naturally, that we sign cooperation accords [words indistinct] We are a legitimate and internationally recognized entity. We cannot accept being compared with a (?group). I suppose that you journalists have enough material to properly characterize a gang that was created by the Portuguese colonialists in order to hinder the national liberation struggle. It tried to come to power by force in 1975, but did not succeed because the Angolan people did not permit it; so it turned to racist South Africa in order to [words indistinct] the Angolan people.

Insert the following passage on page U 2, left column after the last line of the last paragraph.

[Reporter] As the president of the state of Angola you chose a single party (?system) [words indistinct] adhere to the Lome Convention and the EEC, yet receives military aid from the Soviet Union. How does Angola plan to deal with its problems and become a modern country?

[Dos Santos] We have a one-party state, but that does not mean that we are not a democratic and popular government. We are a one-party state for reasons which are related to our point in time and also our historic phase. Even though [words indistinct] during the first years of national reconstruction, there was the need for a strong power [words indistinct] capable of rebuilding the nation, which is our party's duty. Finally, regarding development issues, we are a country seeking to develop relations with all peoples of the world [words indistinct] and, through this policy of cooperation, we hope to bring to Angola that which we lack, so that we may build a modern country, with a democratic government, and a prosperous and (?cultured) society.

Correction to Dos Santos Speech to Assembly

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Dos Santos Reviews People's Assembly Session" published in the 2 December Middle East & Africa DAILY REPORT:

page U 1, right column, paragraph one, antepenultimate line through last line reads: ...administrative state organs give periodic accounts of their activities to the People's Assembly. (rephrasing)

paragraph two, lines two through six read: cadres and structures to facilitate their relationship with the working committees of the People's Assembly, and emphasize the need to improve the linking and cooperation mechanisms between the People's Assembly Secretariat and the Secretariat of the Council of Ministers. (rephrasing)

same paragraph, lines six through eight read: ...mechanisms for deputies to regularly visit their constituencies and give account of their work, thus... (rephrasing)

paragraph three, lines three and four read: ...difficulties currently limiting the capacity of the deputies to perform their duties. In most cases ... (rephrasing)

page U 2, left column, paragraph one, last line reads: ...known agent of terrorism in the pay...(changing word "imperialism" to "terrorism")

paragraph two, lines eight and nine read: ...economic development of our fatherland, so that we...(rewording)

MOZAMBIQUE

Iranian Oil 'Not Yet Arrived' in Maputo

MB021832 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
1800 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] A high-level government delegation from Iran is in Maputo for talks on strengthening cooperation with Mozambique. The delegation, led by Iranian Trade Minsiter Hasan Abedi Ja'fari, arrived in the Mozambican capital yesterday and began talks with a team of Mozambican officials headed by Cooperation Minister Jacinto Veloso. Mr Veloso said he considers the visit by the Iranians as a chance to deepen bilateral relations. Mr Ja'fari said Iren gives priority to cooperation with Third World countries, especially the Frontline States which face aggression by South Africa.

Ties between Maputo and Tehran over the past year have been overshadowed by the fact that, despite high hopes at the beginning of 1986, Iranian oil has not yet arrived in Maputo. President Joaquim Chissano last year, as foreign minister, visited Iran and signed an agreement on the supply of oil on 10 February to Mozambique. An official in the Mozambican Ministry of Cooperation said there have been various difficulties in the process of getting oil to Maputo. She did not say what kind of difficulties have been experienced. Sources in the Cooperation Minsitry say when Iran's president, Ali Khamene'i, visited Mozambique in January this year, no bilateral cooperation agreement was signed with the late President Samora Machel.

The apparent failure of the oil agreement and possible new areas of cooperation are expected to be discussed during the stay in

Maputo of the Iranian delegation, which is scheduled to leave Mozambique tomorrow.

Council of Ministers Approves Laws, Decrees

MB030745 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0400 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Text] The Council of Ministers met in Maputo yesterday. It examined and approved the draft law on national private investment and will submit the government's draft decree on national investment for approval by the People's Assembly.

The 16th government session also examined and approved the council of ministers draft decree regulating direct foreign investment as well as a draft decree on the delegation of authority by the government to grant permission for investment projects. The session also examined the decree on land laws as well as laws on taxes arising from land utilization and localization of water and agricultural infrastructures.

NAMIBIA

SWATF Denies 'Organized' Part in Katutura Riot

MB021036 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0845 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Windhoek, Dec 2, SAPA — A spokesman for the SWA Territory Force today denied that the SWATF had been involved on an organised basis in Sunday's violence that broke out at a SWAPO political rally in Katutura township outside Windhoek.

SWAPO's national chairman, Mr Daniel Tjongarero, said yesterday that members of the Ovambo 101 batallion had attacked people at the rally. After they had left, Mr Tjongarero said, police reinforcements in Casspir armoured vehicles moved in to disperse the meeting.

The SWATF spokesman said in Windhoek: "We deny in the strongest possible terms that the SWATF or any of its units had been involved on an organised basis in Sunday's unrest."

RSA 'Not Averse' To Allowing Elections in Owambo

MB021012 Windhoek THE WINDHOEK AVERTISER in English 28 Nov 86 p 1

["SA Could go for Owambo Elections, but ..." — by Jim Freeman]

[Text] South Africa is not averse to allowing second-tier elections in Owambo next year, in order to allow Administration chairman Mr Peter Kalangula to guage accurately his support among the people of the region.

The Administrator-General, Mr Louis Pienaar, said he would "not be amiss to offering Mr Kalangula an election, and I think I could convince the South African authorities that such an election be allowed."

Mr Pienaar's statement to *The Advertiser* follows flat-out attempts on the part of the South African representatives in Namibia during the past year to broaden the involvement in the latest constitutional initiative.

Mr Kalangula said at Ondangwa recently that he would only participate in the national constitutional debate if he could obtain an Owambo mandate to try and shape the future for Namibia's largest population group.

However, the fly in the ointment of second-tier elections seems to be the Transitional Government [TG] itself.

"The decision to hold elections doesn't lie with me or South Africa, but with the Transitional Government," said Mr Pienaar.

Asked whether he thought the Transitional Government was willing to broaden its constitutional debate appeal to include Mr Kalangula's Christian Democratic Action for Social Justice party, the Administrator-General said: "They have not proved up to now that they are really prepared to accomodate anybody else."

Mr Pienaar stated firmly that the Office of the Administrator-General would pursue its policy of trying to draw more political parties into the constitutional debate.

Observers say the present transitional administration is worthless while it fails to represent about 70 percent of the Namibian people — namely the Owambos, Damaras and Kavangos.

They added that the Transitional Government was selling itself "as a car without wheels" to the world.

Mr Pienaar said while the South African government had granted the TG the right to seek an alternative to the United Nations settlement plan for Namibia — if the world would buy it — the South Africans were still firmly committed to their UN Security Council Resolution 435 commitments.

SOUTH AFRICA

Activist's Murder 'Culmination' of Past Events

MB021650 London BBC World Service in English
1515 GMT 2 Dec 86

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] In South Africa, a leading anti-apartheid activist and his wife have been shot and killed by gunmen. The couple are Dr Fabian Ribeiro and his wife, Barbara, the sister of Robert Sobukwe, the late leader of the banned Pan-Africanist Congress, PAC. The couple were gunned down in their house in Mamelodi township, near the capital, Pretoria. Who the killers were was not immediately clear, but the PAC says it was the work of the United Democratic Front UDF, one of the biggest anti-apartheid movements inside South Africa.

Julian Borja asked (Michael Mwendani), of the PAC's Central Committee, why they were accusing the UDF.

[Begin recording] [(Mwendani)] Well, what we are saying actually is that the UDF is being used by the South African Communist Party to hide in and it is ... [changes thought] They influence members of the UDF to do things like this to a people who belong to the Africanists or the Black Consciousness persuasion in the country.

[Borja] But do you have any hard evidence that the UDF is involved in this murder?

[(Mwendani)] Well, we do have indications because, I mean, Dr Ribeiro has been a victim in the past and he has been followed, he has been threatened in the past by these people, that he must cease, you know, articulating the Africanist point of view or the Black Consciousness point of view, and we know that he has been threatened in the past, we know that he has been attacked in the past and this is simply a culmination of what has been taking place over the last 2 years.

[Borja] You say he has been threatened in the past and attacked in the past, but do you know that he has been threatened and atacked by the UDF?

[(Mwendani)] Well, he has been threatened by people who are associated with the South African Communist Party, that we know very, very well.

[Borja] And why should the UDF want to kill someone like Dr Ribeiro?

[(Mwendani)] Well, let me repeat that the South African Communist Party, which has infiltrated the UDF and is using members of the UDF to do certain things that promote the aims of the South African Communist Party. [as heard] Now, what's happened is this: the South African Communist Party had a deal that it had up its sleeve to make with the South African Government, using a certain organization. Now, they realize that the Black Consciousness movement as well as the PAC would stand in the way of this deal. They would put the spanner in the works, and the aim is really to try to eliminate the Africanist movement or cow them down sufficiently so that now when this deal that they want to make with the South African Government comes about, there should be nobody that would oppose it and put the spanner in the works. That is the whole aim of the South African Communist Party.

[Borja] This all sounds very far-fetched, the idea that the South African Government will make a deal with a communist party?

[(Mwendani)] You'll be surprised, you'll be surprised what kind of people the South African Communist Party has already met. They have spoken to the Broederbond [Secret Afrikaner Brotherhood], they have influenced a certain organization to meet with bantustan leaders who have got nothing to do with the liberation of this country and all sorts of people have been met with, you know, by a certain organization under the influence of the South African Communist Party. So these, therefore, are clear indicators. In fact, we know (?of these) for a long time, but these are clear indicators that the South African Communist Party has these aims and it is true that they have them.[end recording]

Man Who Gave Nuclear 'Secrets' to ANC Released

MB021216 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1140 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 2, SAPA — Dr Renfrew Christie was released from Pretoria prison on Sunday, after serving six of the 10 years to which he had been sentenced for handing over nuclear secrets to the ANC. A Supreme Court application was still pending at the time of his release that he be released on the grounds of the offer by the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, that Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners who renounced violence would be released. It could not be established in Pretoria today on what grounds Dr Christie, 36, had been freed.

Dr Christie, a former Cape Town University researcher, told a Johannesburg newspaper that he would like to see the ANC legalised. "I do think Botha is wrong when he says the ANC lacks majority support. But that cannot be tested while it is underground." Dr Christie was reported to be at his mother's house in Johannesburg, where he is still considering his future.

Soweto Wall Project To Cost 750,000 Rand

MB021222 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1044 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Pretoria Dec 2 SAPA — The six kilometre concrete fence being constructed along the N1 concrete highway dividing Soweto's Diepkloof extension and the Johannesburg suburb of Crown Gardens is costing about R100,000 per kilometre, the Department of Transport confirmed in Pretoria today. The department's director of operations (National Roads) Mr S.A. Gerber, said the total cost of the project was in the region of R750,000. This included about R50,000 spent on a first, wire-strand fence and the R100,000 spent on a second, diamond mesh fence — both of which failed to keep pedestrians and animals off the highway as the structures were destroyed.

Mr Gerber reiterated denials from the authorities yesterday that the concrete fence was being constructed to enclose the black township, as alleged in weekend newspaper reports. He said the road ordinance compelled highways to be fenced off at the peripheries, and said that concrete walls, as opposed to fences, had already been constructed along highways bordering white residential areas.

The Soweto fence project was part of a wider, nine-month contract awarded to a construction company in July. The contract included maintenance and repair work to the concrete slabs on the section of highway.

Dhlomo Tired of 'Arrogance' of NUSAS Leaders

MB021220 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0939 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Durban, Dec 2, SAPA — "Fat Cat" white students who claimed to be fighting for black advancement were nothing more than elitist hypocrites, the acting chief minister of KwaZulu, Dr Oscar Dhlomo, said today. Reacting to an attack by National Union of South African Students [NUSAS] President Mr Brendon Barry in Pietermaritzburg yesterday, in which the KwaZulu/Natal Indaba was described as "Elitist and undemocratic," Dr Dhlomo said blacks were sick and tired of such arrogance. Dr Dhlomo is also the KwaZulu representative at the Indaba.

"What can Mr Barry tell us about elitism when he and his fellow members in NUSAS attended elitist white schools, live in elitist white suburbs and attend elitist white universities?" he asked.

"We are sick and tired of the arrogance of white pseudo-liberals like Mr Barry who claim to be speaking on behalf of blacks during the day, but disappearing into their elitist white suburbs at night and thank God for the Nationalist Party." Dr Dhlomo said it was significant that in spite of NUSAS's claim to be fighting for non-racialism, NUSAS had no black members and never a black president throughout their decades of existence. Consequently, Inkatha had long since ceased to take NUSAS seriously. "To us, NUSAS is an elitist, bourgeois and racially exclusive white student organisation which uses slogans of democratic and progressive black political forces to gain credibility.

"During my university days I knew many white student leaders in NUSAS who claimed to be political champions of the black underdogs. When they completed their studies they either became capitalist fat cats or police informers. I wonder why Mr Barry expects Inkatha to treat him differently."

UDF Treasurer Served With Restriction Orders

MB021948 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1933 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Johannesburg Dec 2 SAPA — A restriction order was today served on on Mr Azhar Cachalia, the National treasurer of the United Democratic Front. The order restricts Mr Cachalia from participating in the following campaigns of the UDF and the following organisations: the Johannesburg Democratic Action Committee; the National Education Union of South Africa; the Fedration of Transvaal Women; End Conscription Campaign; Detainees Support Committee; Detainees Parents Support Committee and the Black Sash.

In terms of the order Mr Cachalia is restricted from taking part in any of the following campaigns: the release of political prisoners or detainees; an end to the state of emergency; unbanning of the ANC; withdrawal of the SADF from the townships; resignation of members of the House of Representatives and the House of Delegates; Compulsory military service; the yellow ribbon campaign and the campaign for national united action which the UDF has undertaken in collaboration with the SACC [South African Council of Churches] and COSATU.

Mr Cachalia was banned for five years in 1981 in terms of the Internal Security Act and was also detained for one and a half months at the beginning of the state of emergency. He said the order comes at a time when the UDF has just announced its major Christmas against the emergency campaign. "It is also part of the sustained campaign of harassment of activists of the UDF and its affiliates," Mr Cachalia said.

Commentary: Moderate Blacks 'Fear Retaliation'

MB030545 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 03 Dec 86

[Station Commentary]

[Text] That moderate blacks fear retaliation if they should express their views openly has been observed often enough. But it has taken a surprising turn in in a new opinion poll to show just how widespread and deeprooted the phenomenon is. In a countrywide survey among urban blacks, remarkable in itself for the findings it came up with, more than half the people approached refused to answer any questions on political matters.

Describing this as a striking response, Mr Henry Barenblatt of the Omnicheck research group commented: Obviously one cannot discount the fear and intimidation factor in the black community. Fear of victimization has in effect imposed self-censorship on the political debate among many moderate blacks — which makes the findings of the Omnicheck poll all the more noteworthy.

Even among those who did respond, three-quarters expressed their preference for ending apartheid by negotiation rather than by violence, and for a multiracial form of government rather than an all-black government. If there were no intimidation 93 per cent of urban black parents would want their children to be in school. Although two-thirds of urban black men heeded calls to stay away from work, even if they did so only occasionally, the detailed findings caused the research unit to conclude that if the element of intimidation were removed the figures might reflect a different picture.

Indeed, says Mr Barenblatt, the most heartening aspect of responses from blacks who were willing to express a viewpoint away from the threat of intimidation is the degree of goodwill and opinions that reflect a great deal of political pragmatism. That this sentiment comes through so clearly in spite of the fears of the moderates is certainly encouraging for all who desire a peaceful and equitable resolution of this country's problems. But it is also deeply disturbing that the sentiment is so inadequately voiced in public debate.

The leader of the research group says their findings have exploded a number of myths about black attitudes on key political issues. But the myths exist because the truth is so little heard; and the truth goes unheard because moderates, with every justification, are afraid to make their views known.

If more than half the people approached in a confidential survey are so frightened of intimidation that they choose not to speak, how much harder is it to speak out openly? When fear inhibits even private conversation, who dares to challenge directly the cause of that fear by taking a public stand on behalf of his people? Is it any wonder that moderate black leaders are so wary of becoming involved in open political negotiations?

The intimidatory tactics of the radicals in the urban black communities give them an influence in South African political affairs that is grossly disproportionate to their numbers. While they continue to operate unchecked the myths about black attitudes in South Africa will persist, and the spokesmen for the moderate majority will remain silent.

Upgrading of Black Townships 'Progressing Well'

MB021453 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1446 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Pretoria Dec 2 SAPA — The upgrading of black townships in the Eastern Cape over the past few months has been progressing well, according to a statement by the Bureau for Information. According to Dr C.F. Scheepers, chief executive director of the Department of Development and Planning and chairman of the Eastern Cape Strategic Development Team (ECSDT), it had identified 23 priority projects in black townships in the Eastern Cape in July this year. Thirteen of these projects are currently being implemented.

At an ECSDT meeting on November 13 it was also reported that rapid progress was being made with the upgrading of townships in the Ibhayi Council area, Motherwell and Kwadezi — about 60 per cent of the infrastructure (except electricity) has been provided. The ECSDT is investigating ways of allowing black communities to take part in its activities. Also, steps have been taken to involve Transkei and Ciskei in the activities of its sub-committees, said the statement. Dr Scheepers said the ECSDT was establishing a liaison committee for those areas outside Port Elizabeth/Uitenhage "to ensure that the rural regions have an effective say in the co-ordinating actions of the ECSDT."

Black Sash Demands Release of Child Detainees

MB021703 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1702 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Johannesburg Dec 2 SAPA — Anti-apartheid organisations today demanded that the government immediately free an estimated 1300 to 1800 children held in detention. The demand was made to the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, and the minister of law and order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, by a meeting hosted by the Black Sash in Johannesburg.

The detention of a child without trial and in an adult jail was "an obscenity," the Rev Peter Storey, the past president of the Methodist Church of SA, told the meeting. "It is an offence to God and it is the deepest shame we have had to live with as citizens of this country," he added. A short term goal was to support the campaign to "free the children", he told the audience of about 300. The ultimate goal was "to see the entire system of apartheid swept away for ever."

The campaign was launched by a broad alliance of organisations three weeks ago. Organisations represented included Women For Peace, the Detainees Parents Support Committee, the End Conscription Campaign, the National Education Union of SA, the PFP Youth, the Institute of Race Relations and Jews for Social Justice. Among those present today were author Nadine Gordimer, Rev Molefe Tsele of the National Education Crisis Committee, civil rights campaigner Mrs Helen Joseph, Mrs Helen Suzman (PFP MP for Houghton), Mr Sidney Kentridge, QC, SC, [Queen's Counsel, Senior Council] and Bishop Simeon Koane, Anglican bishop suffragan of Johannebsurg East.

Mr Geoffrey Budlender, director of the Legal Resources Centre, said detentions had taken place under unjustified circumstances. "It is unacceptable to us and to anyone who believes in the rule of law. The very principle of the system of detention is offensive and unacceptable." He described the conditions under which children were kept as "barbaric."

A father whose 13-year-old daughter is in detention said: "We are worried about our children who are detained. And we really dont know whether they will be released or not." A minister of religion whose 15-year-old daughter was detained five months ago and is being held at Diepkloof prison appealed for the release of the children.

The exact number of children in detention was unknown, said Mrs Sheena Duncan, immediate past president of the Black Sash and director of the Sash's advice office. She estimated that between 1300 and 1800 children under 18 years of age were in detention. More than 50 children in the Witwatersrand area were "missing" while 400 from the region were detained. "No one is going to pretend that all those who are under 18 who have been detained are little angels," Mrs Duncan said. "But civilised countries do not put children in prison. We demand freedom for our children. We will continue to work until that is accomplished."

Vlok Reviews Security Issues, Defends JMC's

MB021657 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1647 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] Pretoria Dec 2 SAPA — Black consumer boycotts which were reportedly being organised for the Christmas season were illegal in terms of the state of emergency regulations and action could be expected against those who propagated them, the new minister of law and order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, said today. The minister and his deputy, Mr Roelf Meyer, were speaking informally to journalists at the end of their second day in office on how they saw their taks and their plans for the future.

Asked whether, in the light of recent reports, police would be taking specific action against consumer boycotters, Mr Vlok said it was an individual's right to decide whether or not to buy goods from a particular shop. Propagating boycotts was, hoever, illegal in terms of the emergency. Asked if this meant boycott committees and organisers in the black townships "had better watch out," he replied: "You couldn't have put it better."

Both the minister and Mr Meyer emphasised they saw their priority to be improving the image of the police — particularly in the black townships — "as those who protect and serve." They hinted at a number of plans and ideas they had in mind but said it was too early yet to make details known. "Self-examination" by police of problems relating to their public image would however also play an important role.

Mr Vlok said he would like to provide the public with the maximum possible information on what was happening in the country, as an informed public was vital, but said it had to be understood security considerations had to be taken into account.

The minister and Mr Meyer, who is responsible for administering the controversial Joint Security Management System [JSM], defended the setup and rejected sinister grass-roots political manipulation connotations attached to it recently in certain media reports. Mr Vlok said the system had been in operation for some six years already, but had only really come into its own over the last year. "There is no secrecy about it all ... details were disclosed in parliament this year," he said.

Mr Meyer explained that the JSM's "obviously" had to address issues in the political field, but that this was not the primary task. The main purpose of the system was to address grievances and problems in particularly the black townships on "a day to day basis" through coordinated action of various government departments and other institutions involved. The system consisted of some 400 Joint Management Centres, representing local leaders and authority representatives, including the security forces, at a grass-roots level and "on a non-political and non-racial basis."

Citing a number of examples in recent months of grievances and other problems being resolved as a direct result of the system's operation, Mr Vlok said it was proving to be highly successful. One of the major problems in the civil service was the long lines of communication and resultant delays in redressing grievances at community level — a situation which was frequently exploited by revolutionaries and instigators.

Although the system had no executive powers, Mr Meyer, as the person responsible for its impelemtation, was directly responsible to the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, and it operated at the highest levels between various government departments to ensure speedy action.

On allegations recently that the system was actively involved in undermining organisations like the United Democratic Front, and others, Mr Vlok responded by saying: "The system is working and acting for the benefit of the community, and in this regard, it will act against anybody working against the interests of the community."

Mr Vlok also responded to reports that the banned African National Congress was receiving more equipment from the Soviet Union to step up its insurgency campaign and said, "we are ready, as far as it is possible, for any escalation."

Three Homes of Inkatha Members Firebombed

MB030952 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0739 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Text] Durban Dec 3 SAPA — A petrol bomb was thrown at the home of Mr Edward Mbata, mayor of Kwamakuta near Amanzimtoti, late last night — one of three such attacks on Inkatha members in the area in the past 48 hours. No one was injured but the house was extensively damaged by fire.

Yesterday morning, three children were seriously burned when two petrol bombs were thrown at the home of Mr E. Ngema. Mr Ngema's children, Goodman, 14, Gladys, 13, and Nombuzo, 4, sustained serious burns to their bodies.

In the third attack, the home of Kwazulus Chief Ministers praise-singer, Mr Ephraim Buthelezi, was also petrol-bombed and stoned. Damage was slight and no one was injured.

Information Bureau Issues 3 Dec Unrest Report

MB030945 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0937 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 3, SAPA — Following is the Bureau for Information's "Unrest report" for the period from 0001 on Dec 2 to 2400 on Dec 2:

"A security force member, Const. James Nkuneka (25) was found dead at the Tladi Training Centre in Soweto yesterday. He died of a bullet wound. The circumstances which led to his death, are, however, not known. Police investigations are continuing.

"Two explosions occurred on the steps of a pedestrian bridge across the railway line at the Wordsworth and Carlyle Ave intersection in Orkney.

"Two holes were ripped into the steps by the explosion in which commercial explosives were used. It is not known whether this incident is unrest-related. Police investigations are continuing.

"Other unrest-related incidents again comprised of isolated stone throwing and petrol bomb attacks reported in seven black townships. No injuries or arrests were reported.

"In order to end speculations concerning the murder of Dr and Mrs Ribeiro of Mamelodi (Pretoria), the SAP has requested all eyewitnesses as well as anyone with relevant information, to please bring this to the attention of the police.

"The SAP is in charge of the formal investigation, and speculation and allegations to and in the press will rather hamper than help the investigation."

Press Comments on Current Problems, Issues

MB030732 [Editorial report]

THE CITIZEN Criticizes Australian Racial Record

The page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 2 December comments on the Australian ban on South African landing rights saying "if South Africa deserves to be isolated and punished by the world, including Australia, one wonders why Australia doesn't get a bit of the sanctions medicine itself, for its racial record is pretty poor." "While the Aborigines have not been given much hope, South African Blacks have a great future ahead of them, economically, socially and politically. Our racism in the past was bad; today the government has pledged to a reformist policy, which includes sharing power with Blacks as well as Coloureds and Indians."

THE STAR Commends Indaba Proposal

Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 2 December says in a page 14 editorial that the government may have its reservations on the Natal Indaba draft regional constitution but "President Botha and his Cabinet should think very hard before rejecting it out of hand. What the Indaba has achieved is an overwhelming consensus among the different groups in Natal and KwaZulu on a system of multiracial government." *The Star* says nothing the government has done in "constitution-making has made such dramatic and encouraging headway." "The Indaba is not a blueprint for South Africa, but it may be a model on which a regional system can be built. And it may contribute formulas for devising a national system."

Multinational Political Intervention Condemned

"The offer by BP [British Petroleum] Southern Africa to invest millions in two social development projects provided the Government makes two major changes to its policies in respect of group areas and the racial integration of state schools has certainly stirred up a hornet's nest," says Martin Spring in the "My View" column on the same page. Spring is concerned that multinations "should intervene directly in our political life." "Now, in South Africa, companies such as BP, General Motors and Eastman Kodak, in their various ways, have shown what has always been suspected, that multinationals are indeed willing to seek political ends to advance their corporate interests." Spring says that the multinationals' interference in South African politics is "cloaked in spurious morality," since their real reason for "anti-apartheid posturing and politicking is that they are desperate to get the critics off their backs in their parent countries." "It is time that we made clear to the multinationals that if they seek to poke their snouts into matters that are none of their business, and to complicate an already complex and unstable political situation then they will be made to pay heavily."

BUSINESS DAY on NP Rejection of Indaba

A page 4 editorial in Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 2 December says that next year's election was not the main reason for the Natal NP's rejection of the KwaNatal Indaba. *Business Day* believes the NP "was always going to turn down the KwaNatal option, because the NP is not ready to consider that form of power-sharing, an probably never will be." Nothing that the Indaba's negotiators could come up with would have satisfied a party now firmly entrenched in the neo-apartheid philosophy of 'own affairs', the political partition which determines that no other race group will have any say in key matters affecting dominant whites." "If the NP really believes in a devolution of power, it should let Natal complete the Indaba, and put its proposals into effect, if they are supported in a provincial referendum."

BUSINESS DAY on Black Housing Shortage

"According to one estimate there's a surplus of 37,000 house in the white market, while thousands of blacks go homeless," says a second editorial on the same page. "Meanwhile, government is artifically stimulating the building of houses for whites by means of subsidy for first-time buyers." "The answer is to de-regulate and to scrap the Group Areas Act, thus allowing blacks and whites to become part of one market."

CAPE TIMES on Soweto Mayor Resignation

A page 10 editorial in Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 1 December says the unexpected resignation of the major of Soweto, Ephraim Tshabalala, "represents another serious blow to the government's discredited and rapidly collapsing system of ethnic local government." *Cape Times* points out that Tshabalala has "for long been regarded by Africans as the doyen of the co-optive style of leadership which the government has been trying to cultivate." "The lesson for the government should be clear: Co-optive domination will never be able to replace popularly elected leaders on a non-racial franchise."

SOWETAN: Poll Shows Blacks Oppose Violence

The page 4 editorial in Johannesburg *Sowetan* in Afrikaans on 2 December says: "A nationwide poll has shown that 74 percent of blacks prefer to see and end to apartheid by negotiation rather than violence. At the same time thousands of Afrikaners at a meeting of the Afrikaans Weerstandsbeweging [AWB] declared that they are prepared to fight for the retention of apartheid." But *Sowetan* believes that there are blacks who also "have the same feelings of radicalims as members of the AWB, and if "things go on as they are" there is every reason to believe that the AWB will perhaps be "destroyed by violent revolution." "We do not wish to tamper with anybody's culture or life-style. We only demand a full share in the running of our lives. We believe the way our lives are being run today is both wasteful and extremely dangerous to this country's future stability."

DIE VADERLAND Calls for NGK Unity

A page 14 editorial in Johannesburg *Die Vaderland* in Afrikaans on 1 December says "there must surely be sympathy for those members of the Dutch reformed Church (NGK) who are disturbed by the recent decision of the synods that the church should be 'open.' For some members it looks like a left turn which estranges them from the church." However, "to worsen an emotional situation by protests, other action, and even threaten that a separate 'Afrikaans' church will be formed is not the solution." The church already has to deal with an attack from the left so to "rip it apart now, can only be viewed as highly irresponsible behavior."

DIE REPUBLIKEIN Blames SWAPO for Rally Violence

A page 4 editorial in Windhoek *Die Republikein* in Afrikaans on 1 December says that there are differing opinions within SWAPO. "There is an internal wing which moves around like a peace dove in an attempt to gain voting power. There is the external wing which sends up the smoke signals of violence." *Die Republikein* says these differences have to lead to tension within a party, "especially when the moment of truth strikes, such as the gathering at Katutura." The paper says SWAPO will have to do more than just blame the police for the violence. "This time the police had to act to stop the spreading of violence which was ignited by SWAPO members."

ZIMBABWE

AFP: Frontline States Assured of Soviet Support

HK030154 Hong Kong AFP in English 0147 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Text] Harare, Dec. 3 (AFP) — Zimbabwe and the other Frontline States of southern Africa allied against apartheid are assured of support from the Soviet Union, according to a visiting member of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party.

K.S. Demirchian said at a press conference Tuesday that the Frontline States could count on Soviet aid to counter South African destabilisation as well as outright aggression.

"In due time and in due amount, aid will be promptly provided," said Mr. Demirchian. He did not specify if he was talking about military aid, which is what frontline state Mozambique needs most at this point to counter the South African-backed Mozambique National Resistance (MNR) movement.

The possibility of Soviet military aid to Mozambique and to Zimbabwe, which has about 6,000 troops in central Mozambique to protect installations against the rebels, was raised recently when a Zimbabwean security delegation visited Moscow.

But Mr. Demirchian's response indicated that the U.S.S.R. would try to avoid further military involvement. He said the Soviet Union did not view war as a means of solving international problems because the international situation was characterized by a series of new problems which demanded "a new political mentality and a rejection of the idea that war is a means of solving problems."

Harare Denies BBC Correspondent's Report on MNR

MB021055 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1954 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Harare, Dec 1, SAPA — The Zimbabwean Government this evening dissociated itself from reports about the operations of the Mozambican National Resistance Movement reported on the BBC by a freelance Zimbabwean journalist, ZIANA, the semi-official news agency, reports.

The Ministry of Information, Posts and Telecommunications, which annually accredits all local and foreign journalist working in the country, said in a statement Mr Tim Lambon was not a Zimbabwean citizen nor did he live or work in Zimbabwe.

"Our information is that he was a member of the Rhodesian Army before independence and is now a member of the South African Army. He lives in Johannesburg."

The ministry spokesman also expressed surprise that the BBC "colluded directly with South Africa and gave publicity to the blatant lies and false propaganda from a mercenary and a renegade."

Government Raises Bread Prices by 11 Percent

MB021338 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] The price of bread went up today by 11 percent. A statement issued in Harare by the Ministry of Trade and Commerce said the retail price of a loaf of white bread goes up from 45 to 50 cents. The price of a loaf of brown bread is up by 3 cents to 36 cents. The statement says the flour millers and master bakers had requested a price increase of 27 percent, but the government compromised with an increase of 11 percent.

The government says the increase will ensure that the flour millers and bakers will remain viable while consumers continue to obtain bread at a reasonable and affordable price. The government said because local farmers grow insufficient wheat to meet the local demands, additional wheat has to be purchased at very high prices.

Norway Firm Wins Telecommunications Contract

MB021450 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] A 30-million rand contract for the construction of the SADCC's telecommunications and microwave project has been awarded to a Norwegian firm. The contract, whose purpose is to improve telecommunications service in the participating countries, was signed in Harare. Malawi, Zimbabwe, and Mozambique are the contracting parties in the project.